

Gorbachev meets new French minister

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev met on Monday with new French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond and congratulated him on his appointment, the official news agency TASS reported. Mr. Raimond, 69, has been serving as French ambassador to the Soviet Union. He was appointed foreign minister last week by new French Premier Jacques Chirac. TASS said Mr. Gorbachev "expressed the conviction that traditional ties between the USSR and France would continue developing in all fields." The news agency quoted Mr. Gorbachev as saying Franco-Soviet cooperation "acquires ever increasing importance both for the CSCE (Stockholm security conference) process and because of the urgency and acuteness of the problems brought about by the arms race."



U.S. retaliates against Libya

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. warplanes Monday struck at Libyan targets in retaliation for a missile attack on American planes taking part in an exercise near the so-called "line of death" near the Gulf of Sirte, U.S. networks reported. CBS quoted unidentified sources as saying U.S. planes attacked a Libyan missile site, or a patrol boat, or both. Cable News Network's Pentagon correspondent said the American aircraft sank a Libyan patrol boat in the Gulf of Sirte and fired on a missile site. Defence officials in Washington said earlier that Libyan forces had fired at least two anti-aircraft missiles at U.S. navy jets during manoeuvres of the U.S. Sixth Fleet (See earlier story below).

Volume 11 Number 3129

AMMAN, TUESDAY MARCH 25, 1986, RAJAB 14, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Queen Noor chairs meeting for trustees of foundation

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday chaired a meeting of the Queen Noor Foundation board of trustees. The meeting, held at Basman Palace, discussed the foundation's charter, bylaws, budget and administrative issues. A statement at the end of the meeting said that committees are studying the implementation of the Jubilee School project. The statement also said that an executive, a resources and an information committee were formed.

Sheikh Jaber receives Saudi message

KUWAIT (Petra) — Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait received on Monday a message from King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia dealing with the latest developments of the situation in the region and bilateral relations. The message was delivered by Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan, Saudi ambassador to Washington.

Iraq reports raid on ship

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said on Monday its warplanes attacked a "large naval target," a term it uses to describe oil tankers or merchant ships, near the Iranian coast Sunday night. A military spokesman said its aircraft scored an effective and accurate hit at 1900 GMT, but there was no independent confirmation from shipping sources in the region.

Strauss leaves Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — Bavarian State Governor Franz Josef Strauss flew to Munich on Monday after a three-day visit to Damascus where he met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported. Mr. Strauss earlier toured Quneitra, the main town in the Golan Heights where the Syrians face Israeli troops who hold part of the region occupied in the 1967 war.

Husak opens Czech congress

PRAGUE (R) — Czechoslovak leader Gustav Husak on Monday opened a five-yearly congress of the Communist Party calling for improvements rather than fundamental changes in the orthodox centrally-planned economic system. Mr. Husak signalled no changes of policy or key personnel in the team that has ruled since a Soviet-led Warsaw Pact invasion in 1968 suppressed the reformist movement of Alexander Dubcek.

Kremlin to keep test ban deadline

MOSCOW (AP) — The state-run news agency Novosti indicated on Monday the Kremlin intends to maintain its self-imposed moratorium on nuclear tests at least until the end of March despite a test on Saturday by the United States. But the news agency said the Soviet position on tests after March 31 depends on whether the United States continues its resistance to Kremlin calls for a joint test ban.

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Israelis shell Nabatiyeh, launch arrest campaign in occupied territories

Militia leader vows retaliation after shelling kills three, wounds 24 in South Lebanon

Combined agency despatches

ISRAEL ON Monday launched a two-pronged offensive against Arab resistance by shelling a South Lebanese village and rounding up Palestinian activists in the occupied West Bank.

The shelling of the market town of Nabatiyeh killed three people and wounded 24 and a Lebanese religious leader vowed retaliation against the Jewish state and its allies in South Lebanon. Provincial police in South Lebanon as well as reporters and militia commanders in the area said Sunday's bombardment came from Israeli positions in Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon.

"Israeli settlements and installations will not be beyond the blows of the resistance henceforth," said Mahmoud Fakih, leader of the dominant Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia in the south. "The resistance knows the targets that would pain the enemy most."

He called on the population of South Lebanon to "brace for this new phase of confrontation." He said the Israeli government would bear the responsibility for the escalation.

Nabatiyeh's daybreak bombardment followed reports of intensified resistance attacks in Israel's "security zone" and renewed cross-border raids by Palestinian commandos.

A few hours before the bombardment began, commandos fired 12 Katyusha rockets into the zone, police said. The village of Aisheh, where the rockets fell, is a stronghold of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA).

Amal militia sources in Nabatiyeh told AP SLA gunners joined in the bombardment of the town and a cluster of surrounding villages.

In Tel Aviv, the Israeli army said Israeli troops have arrested 20 Palestinians alleged to have set off bombs and attacked Israelis during the past year.

Private Beirut radio stations said the Israeli army moved tanks and armoured personnel carriers across the border into Israel's "security zone."

A woman was among those killed in the Israeli shelling, security sources told Reuters.

Ten mortar bombs crashed around open air stalls and covered shops in Nabatiyeh, sending shrapnel and debris scything into shoppers and traders.

Two of the 24 injured were seriously hurt, reports said. Police said many of the wounded were evacuated by ambulances to Sidon, South Lebanon's provincial capital 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

Asked by Al Seyassah if he believed Washington was sincere in saying it would talk directly with the Palestinians if they accepted U.S. Resolution 242, he said: "I am to meet President Reagan in June and I will put this question to him. Later, I will see if the U.S. is sincere or not."

The monarch denounced unnamed Arab states for supplying Iran with military supplies in its 5½-year-old war with Iraq. Syria and Libya back Iran in the war.

King Hassan also noted that all Arab states had benefited from the wealth of the Gulf states, "so it is not right to refuse to support these states when they face dangers."

King Hassan also said it was essential that the Spanish North African enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla should revert to Morocco with the restoration of British-held Gibraltar to Spain.

He said it would be unacceptable to the Soviet Union among others for a NATO state to have territory on both sides of the Strait of Gibraltar.

Responding to a question as to whether Morocco was planning to liberate Ceuta and Melilla from Spain, King Hassan said "this will be achieved through dialogue."

King Hassan also said he was not taking and if mediators are not helping (develop the peace process), then we will never determine the real Israeli intentions," he added.

King Hassan also said he would test the sincerity of U.S. Middle East policy during talks with President Reagan in June.

Although the Arab World had missed many chances to resolve the Arab-Israeli crisis, he said, "I now believe there is a chance to achieve a peace settlement restoring the occupied lands and respecting the rights of the Palestinians."

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Libyans reportedly fire missiles at U.S. warplanes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States sent several ships and waves of fighter planes across Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qaddafi's "line of death" on Monday amid unconfirmed reports the Libyans had fired at least two anti-aircraft missiles at the U.S. planes.

Pentagon sources acknowledged Monday morning they had received fragmentary reports from the Sixth Fleet that a missile — probably a Soviet-made SA-5 surface-to-air missile — had been fired towards American planes.

But the sources refused to immediately confirm the missile launch, saying they were still awaiting additional information from the fleet. The sources said they had received no word of any American plane being hit by a missile.

Robert Sims, the Pentagon's chief spokesman, also declined comment on the matter, saying reports of "hostile action" had not been confirmed.

According to the sources, the first U.S. flights over the Gulf of Sirte, which Libya claims as its territorial waters, began 0500 GMT on Monday.

The initial flights were uneventful, said the sources. By early Monday in Washington, however, the three U.S. aircraft carriers now steaming off Libya's coast had sent additional planes on reconnaissance flights into the gulf and they began to detect evidence of increased Libyan military activity.

The sources added there had been no reports of dogfights between U.S. and Libyan jets.

The Libyans recently received several batteries of SA-5 missiles from the Soviet Union.

The SA-5 is a long-range missile that can be used against targets up to 240 kilometres away. It is generally considered ineffective against fast, low-flying jets. The missile is considered a threat, however, to slower radar and command-and-control planes.

In another development, one source disclosed on Monday that several smaller combat ships with the Sixth Fleet had followed the jet fighters across the "line of death" — an imaginary boundary drawn by Col. Qaddafi across the top of the Gulf of Sirte.

The sources refused to identify the ships, beyond saying they did not include the carriers Coral Sea, Saratoga and America. The three carriers are maintaining a position outside the gulf with most of their escorts deployed in defensive positions around them, the sources said.

Besides the carriers, there are more than two dozen U.S. combat ships operating in the area.

Israel recently expressed concern over two speeches by President Hafez Al Assad, who said Syria's Golan Heights, occupied by Israel since 1967, "will be located in the heart of Syria and not on its borders."

Dr. Kasim urged a unified Arab strategy to face up to Israel. "Our ambitions, aspirations and achievements will remain threatened by international storms without a joint Arab action and an effective Arab solidarity against the Zionist enemy and its allies," he said.

"Syria insists that Israel is the main danger, which should be countered with a joint Arab effort. We maintain that all current problems and crises in the Arab World are of U.S. and Israeli manufacture."

In another attack on the U.S., Damascus Radio on Monday accused America and Israel of keeping tension high in the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

The radio said in a political commentary: "There is no logic that can possibly justify the American manoeuvres off Libya."

The commentary added: "The United States is spending \$10 million a day to arm Israel and making Israeli aggression possible and continuous."

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, who turned down a ministerial position in Mr. Chirac's government, has also joined the squabble, saying the UDF needed the post to balance a cabinet whose senior spots are weighted heavily in favour of Gaullists.

blabbing over who should take the presidency of the National Assembly has already generated friction between the two main components of the new majority, the UDF and RPR.

The RPR party of newly appointed right-wing Prime Minister Jacques Chirac is backing veteran Gaullist and former Premier Jacques Chaban-Delmas for the job.

"The RPR believes that Chaban-Delmas should be its candidate because his experience is an important element to support the strategy of majority unity," Secretary-General Jacques Toubon said in a radio interview Sunday night.

Their centre-right UDF allies, however, have claimed the post for their own veteran leader, former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, who turned down a ministerial position in Mr. Chirac's government, has also joined the squabble, saying the UDF needed the post to balance a cabinet whose senior spots are weighted heavily in favour of Gaullists.

Despite the fragility of the right's victory, however, squ-

IDB needs \$600 million to fund new long-term trade scheme

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Islamic Development Bank (IDB) President Ahmad Mohammad Ali announced on Monday that the bank needed \$600 million to fund a long-term trade financing scheme engineered to bolster trade among the bank's 43-member states. The trade scheme was endorsed by the IDB board of governors which ended its 10th annual meeting here on Sunday.

Dr. Ali told a press conference that half of the \$600 million will be derived from IDB members' capital subscriptions, while the rest will be realised by the bank from market resources.

Before the IDB starts mobilising market resources to raise funds, it has to work out a plan which considers both "sharia" — which governs the bank's transactions — and the rules of the game in the market," Dr. Ali said.

Dr. Ali envisages a one-year period before the fund is launched

since a special committee, which was formed by the board on Sunday, has to draft the trade financing scheme after which it has to be passed to the 43 members for final approval.

The newly endorsed fund will finance imports of non-traditional goods by member countries, Dr. Ali said. He explained that the non-traditional goods were those commodities which form less than 10 per cent of the country's total imports.

The IDB president also announced that the IDB board had adopted 10 resolutions ranging from calls to enhance industrial and economic development and growth of Islamic countries to sorting out administrative procedures. The two-day conference, which carried out its annual deliberations in closed session, was inaugurated by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Sunday.

The board approved an agreement between the IDB and the Arab Industrial Development

Organisation (AIDO). Under the agreement, the IDB president can conclude agreements with the AIDO in areas where the organisation will identify projects which the bank will finance.

The resolutions also said that the IDB board will meet in Turkey, Tunisia, and Morocco successively over the coming three years, and endorsed the bank's budget and final accounts for the 1984/1985 fiscal year. The board also approved a report by a seven-member committee charged with conducting an evaluation of the bank's operations over the past 10 years and accepted the membership of the Sultanate of Brunei.

Commenting on the seven-member committee report Dr. Ali said that it was prepared by seven independent Islamic personalities who considered the bank's financial policies, and operations. He did not disclose the names of the personalities but indicated that

(Continued on page 2)

Iranian opposition expects end to Khomeini regime in 2 years

By Rabah Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Iranian national resistance movement against the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has gathered "solid basis" within and outside Iran and expects to topple the regime in the next two years, a leader of the movement said Monday.

Nader Ravingadi, deputy speaker of the Paris-based National Iranian Resistance Council, also said the movement, under the leadership of Mujahadeen Al Khalq leader Massoud Rajavi, "is the genuine Islamic resistance to Khomeini and it will continue its ideological struggle until the Tehran regime is overthrown."

"We have gathered popular support and the number of our supporters have risen by 400 per cent" in the past years, Mr. Ravingadi told the Jordan Times and Al Ra'i in an interview in Amman.

Mr. Ravingadi is here to attend a symposium on means to end the five-and-a-half-year-old Iran-Iraq war. The symposium, entitled "No-for-war, yes-for-peace," opens here today under Royal patronage.

Referring to the course of the Iran-Iraq war, Mr. Ravingadi said Iranian forces "have been dealt severe blows by the Iraqis" and that "a further radical change in the interest of the Iranian opposition to Khomeini" was in the offing.

He dismissed suggestions that the Iranian movement was allied with "foreign powers" and said the movement "depends mainly on material and moral support from active Iranian followers within and outside Iran."

In reply to a question on the Iranian resistance movement's relations with Iraq and Arab countries supporting Iraq, Mr. Ravingadi said: "Although our relations with the international community are not so strong, we enjoy good ties with Iraq and Jordan and we hope to establish similar relations with Saudi Arabia."

"All Islamic countries are our brothers," he added.

(Continued on page 2)

Kasm: Syria is better prepared to confront Israel

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kasm said on Monday Syria was now better prepared to confront Israel.

"Syria — the front line of Arab force — is now more prepared to confront the Zionist foe, who dreams of aggression," Dr. Kasm told a conference of Arab agricultural engineers.

"Syria will remain the political and military barrier which Israel and those behind it will never be able to cross into Arab hinterland."

Israel recently expressed concern over two speeches by President Hafez Al Assad, who said Syria's Golan Heights, occupied by Israel since 1967, "will be located in the heart of Syria and not on its borders."

Dr. Kasm urged a unified Arab strategy to face up to Israel. "Our ambitions, aspirations and achievements will remain threatened by international storms without a joint Arab action and an effective Arab solidarity against the Zionist enemy and its allies," he said.

"Syria insists that Israel is the main danger, which should be countered with a joint Arab effort. We maintain that all current problems and crises in the Arab World are of U.S. and Israeli manufacture."

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The commentary added: "The United States is spending \$10 million a day to arm Israel and making Israeli aggression possible and continuous."

League council to discuss Gulf, ties with Africa and Europe

TUNIS (Agencies) — Arab League foreign ministers were holding a regular council session on Monday with the Gulf war and several other items on the agenda.

At least 15 foreign ministers were expected to attend the 21-member League's six-monthly meeting.

The official agenda for the 85th Arab League Council session includes the 5½-year-old Iran-Iraq war, the situation in South Lebanon, and the Afro-Arab and Euro-Arab dialogue, sources quoted by Reuters said.

North Yemen and Lebanon were not attending at ministerial level, but other member states were sending foreign or other ministers, the sources said. Palestine Liberation Organisation political department head Farouk Kaddoumi was expected to be present, they added.

The session follows a critical phase in the Gulf war following a major Iranian offensive last month.

The flare-up of fighting has prompted fears among neighbouring Gulf states that the war might spill over onto their territory.

The League session is also due to discuss relations with African states. Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi held talks here Sunday night with the head of the Organisation of African Unity, Idi Oamarou, the Tunisian News Agency (TAP) said.

Foreign Minister Beji Caid Ess-ebdi of Tunisia, which has taken over the rotating presidency of the league council from Bahrain, discussed the Gulf war with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz before Sunday's session, TAP said.

Arab diplomatic sources said Libya was represented at the league ministerial meeting by a foreign liaison bureau (ministry) official, Fahmi Hamouda, instead of its new foreign minister, Kamel Hassan Al Mansour.

Officials said it was the largest jailbreak of convicted criminals in Pakistani history. It also was the second spectacular prison escape in the subcontinent in eight days.

In the Indian capital New Delhi on March 16 internationally wanted criminal Charles Sobhraj walked out of maximum security Thar Jail after accomplices drugged guards. Sobhraj, charged with a series of murders, is still at large.

Police said they had no idea who stormed Sukkur jail shortly before dawn but said they suspected a band of highwaymen, or "dacoits," had carried out the assault on the prison that held 42 convicts awaiting hanging.

The attackers roared up to the jail in 12 jeeps, flung ladders up to the watchtowers and scrambled up to overpower the guards and cut the electrical wires, police said.

Prison guards were pinned down by fire from Kalashnikov assault rifles and submachine guns as part of the assault gang raced to death row and broke the heavy cell padlocks with sledgehammers.

They said they believed the fugitives had gone to ground in dense forests on either side of the Indus River which is bridged at Sukkur.

Iraq says Security Council statement lacks balance

BAGHDAD (R) — The Baghdad government has expressed regret that last Friday's U.N. Security Council statement condemning Iraq for using chemical weapons in its war with Iran lacked what it called the "required balance."

In a letter to Security Council President Ole Biering of Denmark, released by the Iraqi News Agency Sunday night, Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said "the Iraqi government regrets to find the Security Council statement clearly lacks the required balance."

Mr. Aziz said the statement did not truly reflect reality when it called on both sides to respect the territorial integrity of all states and "in fact this call should have been directed to the party (Iran) which threatens other states and insists on war."

There was no mention in the letter to "chemicals," nor was there any denial of the U.N. accusation that Iraq had used chemical weapons against Iranian forces. It referred only to the Security Council's statement of March 21.

The Council statement, which carries less weight than a resolution, condemned Iraq's alleged use of chemical weapons in the

in the long-running Gulf war. Al Jumburiya quoted Mr. Ozal, who is visiting Baghdad, as saying: "I feel that Turkey is the only country which can play the role of mediator in this war."

But he added: "The problem is that Iran insists on changing the regime in Iraq as a condition (for ending the war), and this undermines any role to achieve a satisfactory and peaceful solution."

Turkey borders Iraq and Iran, which have been at war for 5½ years, and has maintained good relations with both sides.

Mr. Ozal, who has visited Iran twice, told Al Jumburiya he had several friends among the Iranian leadership, but added: "They have not asked me to play the role of mediator until now."

He said on March 21 before leaving on his second visit to Iraq since becoming prime minister in 1983 that he was not going as a mediator.

In the past, Ankara has come under pressure from Muslim countries to try to broker a peace settlement, but the government has said it will do so only if both sides agree.

All mediation efforts by regional and international bodies,

including the United Nations and the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement, have failed so far, largely because of Iran's insistence that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein be ousted.

Mr. Ozal has had talks with Mr. Hussein and other Iraqi leaders on regional dangers posed by the war. A Turkish newspaper quoted Iraqi Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan as expressing concern about Turkish neutrality in the conflict.

But Al Jumburiya quoted Mr. Ozal as denying that Turkish trade cooperation with Iran had helped to support Tehran's "war intentions" against Iraq.

"Our trade exchange with Iran is not bigger than with Iraq and we do not export war material to Iran," he said.

Mr. Ozal said his talks with Ramadan covered ways to continue trade exchanges between Turkey and Iraq.

Iraq, whose main oil outlets in the Gulf were shut soon after the war started, exports most of its oil via a pipeline to the Turkish Mediterranean coast. A second pipeline is being constructed.

U.K. envoy appeals for Collett's release

BEIRUT (R) — British Ambassador John Gray called Monday for mercy for British Journalist Alec Collett, who was seized in Lebanon a year ago.

"It is curious to us that an old, sick man should be detained for a year, especially when he was sympathetic to the Arab cause," Mr. Gray told Reuters. "He's 64, diabetic, and we appeal for his release on humanitarian grounds."

Collett had been in Beirut barely a month on assignment for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) when he was taken from a U.N.-marked car just south of the capital on March 25. His Austrian companion was not held.

A little-known group named the "Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Muslims," claimed responsibility and demanded the release of "all Muslim freedom fighters" from British jails.

The group has said it was behind attacks on British interests abroad over the last two years, including the killings of British diplomats in Bombay and Athens.

"We have very little information on who has got him (Collett) or what they want," Mr. Gray said. Telephone numbers would appear in Beirut newspapers Tuesday to be used by the captors if they wanted to arrange his release, he added.

Collett is one of 18 foreign nationals missing in Lebanon. There has been no news of Collett since he appeared, tired and tense, on a video film cassette delivered by his kidnappers to a Beirut newspaper office in December. A similar cassette of him was distributed last May.

"We were heartened and relieved by the last video," said Mr. Gray. "But now we are stuck. He is still in captivity."

Collett, a New York resident, has an ailing wife, an adult daughter and a young son. He was voted honorary president of the U.N. Correspondents Association in his absence last year.

U.N. Staff and Journalists' Associations in New York and Vienna will hold meetings Tuesday for the anniversary of Collett's abduction, a U.N. statement said.

His case was taken up by British Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, who made several trips to Beirut last year in a bid to mediate with the captors of four American hostages, but apparently failed to contact the group holding Collett.

Syria, influential with many armed factions in Lebanon, has pledged to work for Collett's release and Mr. Gray said Britain was "very grateful for the Syrian government's interest."

He said he was anxious Collett's predicament should not be "dropped out" by the attention devoted to eight French and six American citizens missing in Lebanon. "We are also deeply aware that the Lebanese have suffered more than anyone from the problem of kidnapping," he said.

In Vienna the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees appealed Monday for the release of Collett.

Peres refuses to break up coalition

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres has rejected an appeal from party members who want him to break an agreement giving the premiership to his rival, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in about seven months.

But Peres, at Sunday's meeting of his Labour Party's Central Committee, left open the possibility of bringing down Israel's government and forcing new elections if Shamir's Likud Bloc doesn't support his efforts toward Mideast peace and economic recovery.

"The Likud says quite frankly that their main objective is rotation. I propose that we should not make rotation the central issue," Peres was quoted as telling his party colleagues.

"It may be difficult, but we must go through with it honourably and unhesitatingly," the Jerusalem Post quoted Peres as saying.

Peres and Shamir formed their unusual alliance in September 1984 following inconclusive summer elections. Under the accord, Peres is holding the premiership for the first 25 months while Shamir is foreign

minister. The two are to switch places in mid-October. But Peres has come under increasing pressure from Labour Party leaders who believe he could win enough of the popular vote to form a government without support from the Likud.

The Central Committee, which has about 1,100 members, had intended to vote Sunday on whether to scrap the power-sharing accord. But Peres and party secretary Uzi Baram won a show-of-hands vote to transfer the issue to the National Convention, which will start April 8 and bring together 3,000 delegates.

Peres said he would propose at the National Convention that Labour honour the rotation clause of the coalition agreement "if the Likud honours the other two clauses," which are to pursue peace and economic recovery.

"If our path is hampered, I will propose that we hold immediate elections," said Peres.

His plans for increased government spending to promote growth have been opposed by Shamir's Likud Bloc.

Ex-parliament member Mic-

hael Bar-Zohar proposed the motion to break up the unity government, which got 104 signatures. He argued that the coalition had accomplished all it was capable of achieving.

Following a disruptive convention of Shamir's Herut Party two weeks ago, some Labour leaders also fear that Shamir is not strong enough to lead the party and might lose control to either Housing Minister David Levy or Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon.

Labour leaders also say they fear Likud foreign policies will slow down the Mideast peace process.

The Al Hamishmar newspaper, which speaks for the Socialist Mapam Party which is not part of the government, urged Peres in an editorial Monday to disband the coalition government, saying it had long ago become "a government of national paralysis."

Referring to rivalry between Shamir, Sharon and Levy, the newspaper said if Peres yields office to "a prime minister who does not even have the support of his own party," it could endanger democratic rule in Israel.

IDB needs \$600 million to fund new scheme

(Continued from page 1)

of procedures. The board of governors also sent three separate cables of appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein, Prince Hassan and Prime Minister David Rifa'i.

In Dr. Ali's cable to the King he said that the royal patronage of the conference was a great source of encouragement for the participants during their deliberations and helped them adopt solutions which could support and expand cooperation among the IDB member states and contribute effectively to the economic and social development of the member states.

Dr. Ali also voiced gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the IDB board to the Jordanian government for hosting the conference and for the facilities it offered the participants.

In his cable to Prince Hassan,

Dr. Ali thanked the Crown Prince for attending and addressing the conference and for the valuable points which his speech included.

"Your speech and the points it included formed the framework of the meeting's deliberations and enabled the ministers taking part in the conference to reach tangible results to strengthen cooperation among the IDB member states and to intensify efforts to achieve economic and social development of Islamic countries," the cable said.

The IDB president's cable to Mr. Rifa'i expressed appreciation to Jordan for hosting the IDB meetings and said Jordan's interest in organising the meeting and providing all facilities for participants enabled the conference to achieve good results. Dr. Ali wished Jordan, under the leadership of King Hussein, every success and prosperity.

'Khomeini will fall in 2 years'

(Continued from page 1)

"Our good relations with Iraq were undermined when Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz met with Mr. Rajavi in Paris in 1982 and drew up a peace plan to end the Iran-Iraq war," he said. "The plan was approved by Iraqi policy-makers as a basis for establishing peace between Iran and Iraq."

Mr. Ravagadi dismissed reports that the Iranian resistance movement's relations with the Soviet Union were bad but did not elaborate. However, he said, "we seek to establish good relations with all countries after toppling the Khomeini regime."

"Our political activity covers a very broad range, particularly in Europe," he said. "We owe the strength of our movement to the large number of our supporters."

Replying to further questions, the Iranian resistance leader said: "All enemies of Khomeini are our friends."

Commenting on the support

that his movement enjoys within Iran, Mr. Ravagadi said "more than 90 per cent of the Iranian population are behind us and more than 40 per cent of the Iranian army support us."

"He said the Khomeini regime executed 50,000 opponents and jailed 140,000 people since it took power in 1979. He said he expected a further escalation in internal Iranian opposition to the revolutionary regime as a result of continued oppression."

The symposium which opens here today is organised by the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO). ALO Director General Al Hashemi Al Banani said on Monday the selection of Amman as the venue for the symposium was not by chance or an offhand selection.

"Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, has been a pioneer in adopting all initiatives that contribute to healing the rift among brothers either in the Arab World or at the Islamic level," Mr. Banani said.

Soviets want closer ties with Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — A senior Soviet official conferred with President Hosni Mubarak on Monday and said Moscow wants closer ties with Egypt.

Pavel G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet and president of the Georgian Republic, described his session with Mr. Mubarak as "the best of the meetings" of his eight-member parliamentary delegation has had in Cairo.

The Soviet team arrived last Tuesday on a week-long visit, returning one to Moscow last year by an Egyptian parliamentary delegation.

"We look forward to new horizons for cooperation between our two countries," Mr. Gilashvili told reporters after seeing Mr. Mubarak.

Rifaat Al Yahgoub, speaker of the People's Assembly, Egypt's parliament, who attended the meeting, said Mr. Mubarak "aff-

irmed his keenness on maintaining friendship and bolstering relations" with the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union was Egypt's principal source of arms and economic aid between 1955 and 1972. Relations deteriorated sharply in July 1972 when then-President Anwar Sadat expelled 17,000 Soviet military personnel because of Moscow's refusal to supply advanced weapons.

A further aggravation occurred in 1974 when the Soviets embargoed arms aid to Egypt because of Mr. Sadat's peace overtures to Israel and his rapprochement with the United States.

This led Mr. Sadat to turn to the West for most of Egypt's military hardware and economic aid, a policy maintained by Mr. Mubarak after Mr. Sadat's assassination in 1981.

Between 1978 and 1981, Mr. Sadat scaled down diplomatic representation between the two countries.

tries to charge d'affaires level. Mr. Mubarak named an ambassador to Moscow in 1984, and the Soviet Union followed suit.

The Soviets presently have several dozen civilian experts working on projects that had been carried out with Moscow's help before the rift with Mr. Sadat.

The state-owned Cairo newspaper Al Ahran reported Monday that Mr. Gilashvili was discussing with Egyptian officials the possibility of Soviet help in the construction of nuclear power plants. There was no official confirmation of the report.

Egypt has an ambitious plan to build eight nuclear power stations over the next 25 years. Tenders for the first one have been submitted by companies in the United States, West Germany, France and Italy, but the government has not decided which offer to accept.

Mr. Gilashvili is to leave on Tuesday.

Gunmen injure UNIFIL soldier

BEIRUT (AP) — An Irish soldier with the U.N. peace-keeping force in South Lebanon has been wounded by an unidentified gunman, U.N. spokesman Timur Goksel reported Monday.

Goksel said private Kevin Horan, 22, was shot in the left thigh late Sunday night on a road bridge on the outskirts of village of Tibnine, headquarters of the Irish Battalion serving with the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon, or UNIFIL. Goksel said about 12 gunmen in two cars sped to the Irish checkpoint on the bridge and tried to open the gate to go into the town, but Horan refused to let them through. One gunman tried to hit the lone Irish sentry with his rifle, Goksel said. The other assailants pointed their guns at his head.

Libya seeks union with Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Libya is seeking a union with Algeria as a first step to uniting North Africa and Arab states, the official Algerian News Agency APS said quoting a communiqué issued in Tripoli Sunday night.

The communiqué followed a two-day visit by Algerian Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Brahimi which marked a new step in Algerian-Libyan rapprochement after a period of mutual distrust.

the country where Chadian sources say Libya is strengthening its military presence.

The incorporation into the government of former opponents coincided with reports that Mr. Habre might meet former President Goukounti Oueddine to discuss an overall solution to the two-year-old civil war.

The broadening of his government and the National Consultative Council would further his claim to speak as Chad's legitimate ruler in any peace talks, the sources said.

Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Chairman Abdou Diouf has said on several occasions recently the two arch-rivals would meet soon in the Congolese capital of Brazzaville.

Former Habre opponents become ministers

N'DJAMENA (R) — President Hissene Habre has named a former rebel leader as Chad's new justice minister, a presidential statement said.

Other former opponents who rallied to Mr. Habre's side were given top ministerial jobs in a cabinet reshuffle political sources said was aimed at widening his power base and furthering reconciliation in the war-torn African nation.

Gen. Djibril Djogo, a former commander of the Libyan-backed rebels occupying northern Chad, was named justice minister Sunday night.

Two other leading members of his southern-based Chadian Democratic Front (FDT), who signed a peace agreement with the

N'Djamena government late last year in the Gabonese capital of Libreville, were given top government jobs.

Mr. Habre, who also signed a series of peace accords with so-called "Codo" guerrillas who fought his government in southern Chad, appointed one of their leaders, Pierre Tokinou, secretary of state for health.

Gouara Lassou, the government's number two, kept his job as foreign minister and Ibrahim Mahamat Imo retained the interior portfolio.

Mr. Habre scrapped the Defence Ministry and will take direct responsibility for defence matters.

Political sources said this reflected his preoccupation with the situation in the northern half of

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PROGRAMME ONE
16:00 Koran
16:20 Cartoons
16:25 Children's programme
16:50 Live transmission of Soccer match: Kuwait Vs. Oman

18:50 Religious programme
19:30 News programme
19:50 News in Arabic
20:20 Arabic Series
21:30 Tomorrow's Programme
21:35 Studio '86
23:00 News Summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Espace Franco phone
18:30 La chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:15 Bergeval et fils
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:20 News in Arabic
20:30 That's My Boy
21:00 Towards 2000
21:10 A Married Man
22:00 News in English
22:20 Murder, She Wrote

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07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Cont.
11:00 Pop Session Cont.
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session Cont.
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:15 Country Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Science Report
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News Bulletin
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Cont.
21:55 News Summary

22:00 Evening Show Cont.
23:00 News Summary
23:05 Evening Show Cont.
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 Close down

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06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 English Song
06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections
07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours
News Summary 07:30 News Desk 07:40
08:00 Clock 07:45 The World Today
08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Rock Salad 09:00
World News 09:09 24 Hours: News
Summary 09:30 My Country in Mind
09:45 Network UK 10:00 World News
10:05 Reflections 10:15 Wish T Me
10:30 The Music of Richard Rodney
Bennett - from Concert Hall to Cabaret
11:00 World News 11:09 British
Press Review 11:15 The World Today
11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look
Ahead 11:45 What's New 12:00 News
Summary: Discovery 12:30 Pride and
Prejudice 12:40 World News 12:49
News about Britain 13:15 WideWorld
13:25 Letter from Scotland 13:30 Sports
International 14:00 Radio Newsworld
14:15 Prospects 14:45 Sports Round-up
15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News
Summary 15:30 Network UK
15:45 Recording of the Week 16:00 Outlook
16:05 English Song 17:00 Radio
Newsworld 17:15 A Jolly Good Show
17:30 The Random Jottings of Hinge
and Brackett 18:00 World News 18:09
Commentary 18:15 Omnibus 18:45 The
World Today 19:00 World News 19:09
A Letter from Scotland 19:15 Mexican
19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk
20:30 Development 20:30 The Far-
ning World 21:00 News Summary 21:20
News Summary: Outlook 21:30 Stock
Market Report 21:45 Report on Religion
22:00 World News 22:09 24
Hours: News Summary 22:30 Richard
Rodney Bennett Premiere 23:00 Orama
23:10 Book Choice

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06:00 News 06:30 Newsdesk 06:30 VOA
Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsdesk
07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10
Newsdesk 08:30 VOA Morning News
Summary 17:00 News 17:10 Newsdesk
17:30 News USA 18:00 News 18:10
Focus 18:30 Special English News &
Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsdesk
19:30 Magazine Show

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* A French exhibition on film directing at the Royal Cultural Centre (until March 27)

* An art exhibition by Dr. Mahmoud Sadeq at the Jordan National Gallery (until March 30)

* French exhibition "M.D. portrait de Femme" at the French Cultural Centre (until March 27)

* A handicraft exhibition by the Soviet Republic of Belorussia at the Royal Cultural Centre (until March 30)

* An exhibition of aerial photographs and archaeology at the French Cultural Centre.

* An exhibition of oil paintings on Jordan by Turkish artist Sa Yuce at the Petra Bank Gallery.

NEWS VIDEO

* The ABC News at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
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British Council 636147-8
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 634049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haye Arts Centre 645195
Husseini Youth City 647181/86
Y.W.M.C.A. 644251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics

from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Cliffed Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan Museum of Modern Art: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mutasarra, Jabal Lawzeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.

St. George of the Assumption (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lawzeh, 637440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 678906.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 717331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 717361.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiah, 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.

Rebush Congregation (International, Inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabal Amman, Tel. 606974.

PRAYER TIMES

04:11 Fajr
05:33 (Sunrise) Duhr
11:43 Asr
15:12 'Asr
17:52 Maghrib
19:15 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

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ARRIVALS

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09:35 Cairo (MS)
10:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:45 Damascus (RJ)
10:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
10:45 Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
10:45 Dhahran, Kuwait (SV)
13:05 Zurich, Lausanne (SR)
13:05 Moscow (SU)
16:50 Larnaca (RJ)
17:15 Bahrain (RJ)
17:15 Beirut (JA)
17:30 Cairo (RJ)
17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:55 Paris, Brussels (RJ)
17:55 Athens (RJ)
18:00 Amsterdam, Istanbul (KL)
18:05 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:30 Tripoli (RJ)
19:55 Rome, Damascus (AZ)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Mohammad opens charity bazaar

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Monday inaugurated a charitable bazaar held at the Community Development Centre in Sweileh. Prince Mohammad toured the various sections of the bazaar which included displays of embroidery, straw works and artificial flowers. He also inspected the progress of work at the library which is currently being constructed by University of Jordan students.

Ozal sends cable to Rifai

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Monday received a cable of appreciation from Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal which was sent as he passed through Jordanian airspace en route to Turkey after a visit to Iraq. In his cable, Mr. Ozal expressed pride in Jordanian-Turkish relations and wished Jordan every progress and prosperity. Mr. Rifai sent a reply cable wishing the Turkish government and people every progress and prosperity.

Prime minister receives Soviet envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Monday received in his office Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk.

Majali meets visiting Turkish minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali Monday received Turkish Minister of State Wehbi Dincer, who is currently visiting Jordan and Hungarian Ambassador to Jordan Zoltan Zsigmond for discussions on relations in the educational and cultural fields and means of developing them. The meeting was attended by Ministry of Education Under Secretary Ahmad Basbareh, Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher also received the Turkish minister and the two discussed bilateral relations.

UNICEF regional chief to move on

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Victor Soler Sala, regional director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for the Middle East and North Africa, will be transferred to Geneva to take charge of Europe office as of May 1986. Mr. Soler Sala has served in Jordan for almost two years since the transfer of the regional office from Beirut to Amman as a result of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982. He will be succeeded by Mr. Richard Reed, regional director of the UNICEF office in Europe.

Supply official reviews cereal storage

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Supply Under-Secretary Abdullah Al Hawamdeh and the secretary general of the Baghdad-based Arab Federation for Food Industries, Dr. Fahad Jaber, Monday discussed issues related to a seminar on the strategic storage of cereals which will be held in Amman in October. They also discussed cooperation between the ministry and the federation in the exchange of experience in the field of storing cereals.

Haj Hassan, envoy discuss labour issues

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Al Haj Hassan and Egyptian Ambassador in Amman, Ihab Wahbe Monday discussed Jordanian-Egyptian relations in the labour field. The ambassador extended an invitation to Mr. Haj Hassan to visit Egypt at the head of a Jordanian delegation to contribute to further strengthening relations between the two countries.

Philatelic club meets in Zarqa today

ZARQA (J.T.) — The Philatelic Club of Jordan is to hold a meeting Tuesday at the Islamic Culture Society in Zarqa. The meeting aims to introduce stamp collectors in Zarqa Governorate to the latest methods of stamp collection, arrangement, preservation and exchange. Slides of rare stamp collections are to be reviewed during the meeting.

Awqaf committee reviews plans for Isra'a, Mi'raj celebrations

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Monday presided over a meeting of Awqaf directors and reviewed minutes of meetings held by the national committee for Islamic celebrations.

The minutes of the meeting, which was held on March 10, included the main programme for celebrating Isra'a and Mi'raj (the Prophet Mohammad's nocturnal journey and ascension to heaven) and Al Aqsa Day, which will be held on Sunday, April 6, in addition to a seminar on Al Aqsa scheduled for April 8.

Dr. Khayyat said that the Friday sermon on April 4 will be dedicated to Jerusalem and Al Aqsa Mosque and will discuss their status in Islam. The sermons will also refute Israeli claims about the existence of Suleiman temple or any Jewish sites within the Muslim places of worship. Dr. Khayyat also pointed out the importance of Isra'a and Mi'raj as significant historical events which he said are a part of the Muslim faith.

The meeting was attended by Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Under Secretary Abdul Salam Al Abbadi and senior ministry officials.

Also Monday Dr. Khayyat chaired a meeting of the Awqaf council, which took a number of decisions on issues pertaining to Waqf property. The council also approved the regulations for the industrial Islamic orphanage in Jerusalem and organised the supervision of educational affairs and the admission of students to the school. The industrial Islamic orphanage, was established in Jerusalem in 1922 to provide educational and industrial training to orphaned Muslim children. The orphanage now accommodates some 800 students.

AAAE Secretary General Yabih Bakkour also delivered a speech in which he said that the conference is a mobilisation of the efforts of Arab scientists working towards increasing and improving the quality and quantity of agricultural production. Dr. Bakkour affirmed that the AAE is working hard to develop agricultural production with the purpose of achieving Arab agricultural integration.

The president of the Arab Society for Plant Production, Dr.



Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib (left at table) Monday attends the opening of a symposium on remote sensing technology and its applications in Jordan (Petra photo)

Jordan, Syria agree on trade quotas

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Syria Monday agreed to exchange goods worth JD 20 million for each side during the current year and to establish Syrian and Jordanian trade centres in Amman and Damascus.

Agreement was reached during five days of meetings held by the joint Jordanian-Syrian standing committee which is entrusted with promoting economic and trade relations between the two countries.

Mr. Mohammad Al Saqqaf, under secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, made the announcement at the end of the committee meetings and said that he and his Syrian counterpart Ahmad Al Dabbas had signed the minutes of the deliberations.

The two sides have agreed to increase the volume of trade exchange starting this year and will draw up lists of national products and commodities to be exchanged between them and will give instructions to private and public organisations to abide by these quotas, Mr. Saqqaf said.

He said that the trade centres, which will be opened immediately in Damascus and Amman, will each have a JD 2 million quota each and he added that the two sides also agreed to set up a specialised fair to display national products. Mr. Saqqaf went on to say that each fair will be allowed to sell up to JD 3 million worth of products. Mr. Saqqaf said that both sides agreed to organise a Syrian trade fair in Amman in the coming month and a similar one in Damascus during June.

He said that the minutes also provide for arrangements to settle payments for the exchanged goods as well as guarantees and facilities for the goods and traders in each country.

W. Germany to conduct studies on oil shale

AMMAN (Petra) — West Germany will conduct tests on samples of oil shale found at Lejoun in southern Jordan and will also help conduct a feasibility study on shale oil production, according to an agreement signed in Amman Monday. The agreement is the second of its kind between the two countries and entails conducting tests on 100 tonnes of oil shale from Lejoun which has already been shipped to West Germany.

West Germany will also study the best and most effective means of exploiting the oil shale and will prepare designs for a station that will be used in the process of extracting oil from shale. The feasibility study will last 12 months and will cost nearly JD 600,000 to be paid by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) in conjunction with West German government and a consortium of German companies helping in the study, according to the agreement.

The agreement was signed on behalf of NRA by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and by a representative of the West German consortium.

Farhan outlines activities of new concrete company

AMMAN (Petra) — Social Security Corporation (SSC) Director General Mahdi Al Farhan who is also chairman of the board of directors of the concrete industries company in Qastal, near the Queen Alia International Airport, Monday stressed the need to provide all encouragement to the concrete industry. Dr. Farhan said the company has won contracts worth JD 5 million including the production of concrete sleepers for the Aqaba rail road.

The company, Dr. Farhan said, will cover any future expansion in Aqaba railway projects in addition to meeting the demands of neighbouring Arab countries. The company also serves as a main arm for the projects of the Housing Corporation which will use the company's products in its housing projects, he continued.

The company, Dr. Farhan added, intends to request the private sector to contribute towards the implementation of contracts and construction projects. He pointed out that the contracts the company has won so far are capable of using the company's production for the next few years.

The company, while meeting the demands of both the private and public sectors, is also contributing towards providing foreign currency thus benefiting the country by reducing production costs and reviving local resources in the fields of the cement industry, transport and providing opportunities of work for Jordanians, in addition to introducing new technology, he said. Dr. Farhan expressed hope that the company would be able to develop methods of production to cope with the increasing demand.

The company's director general Hisham Izzuddin said that the company's capital is JD 4 million and that it was established in implementation of the directives of a ministerial development committee. He said that it aims to contribute to the implementation of developmental and construction projects in Jordan.

Khatib opens symposium on remote sensing technology

Jordanian, French experts discuss applications of microelectronics in geology, cartography and hydrology

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib, deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Monday opened a symposium on remote sensing and its possible applications in Jordan.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Khatib emphasised the need for Jordan to adapt new technologies to suit national development and he said the three-day symposium was part of the Kingdom's quest towards incorporating and utilising advanced methods in consolidating the national infrastructure.

The minister expressed hope that the deliberations of the symposium would come up with suggestions for Jordan to make the best use of microelectronics in streamlining the Kingdom's search for natural resources and activities in the field of cartography, geology and hydrology.

Also speaking at the opening session of the symposium, which is jointly organised by the Jordan National Geographic Centre (JNGC) and the French embassy, were JNGC Director Rafat Al Majali and French Ambassador to Jordan Patrick Leclercq.

Arabs and cartography

Brigadier-General Majali briefly reviewed the importance of maps to man as a record of the earth's features and land and recalled the Arab contributions to developing the art of cartography over the centuries. "The Arabs were the pioneers in astronomy and survey methods," he said. "If you look to the star almanac, you will find that more than 90 per cent of the stars in the northern hemisphere have Arabic names," he added.

The JNGC director paid tribute to France for being the first to develop "photogrammetry" — the art of aerial photography — and outlined the progress of cartography in the 20th century.

The Amman symposium, Brig. Majali said, was significant and timely since the first French satellite specially designed to produce high-resolution images of the earth was launched only last month. "We in Jordan look forward to learning more about the possibilities from our French colleagues who generously agreed to give us the benefit of their experience," he said.

Ambassador Leclercq also underscored the significance and timing of the symposium and praised Franco-Jordanian cooperation.

"There is plenty to discuss (in the symposium) because mapping techniques are changing fast with remote sensing, data banks, digital cartography, image processing and automatic cartography," said the ambassador. "The development of these new instruments represent a challenge for all our countries. We are here, Jordanian and French, to discuss together how best to face it."

Mr. Leclercq said that France had trained the first personnel of the JNGC in 1974 and continues to train Jordanian specialists apart from assigning two French experts to the centre. A JNGC engineer participated in the French programme to launch the "Spot" satellite last month, he said. Also, he continued, a Franco-Jordanian team is currently engaged in setting up a survey of corals in the Aqaba coast.

In an ensuing debate on Mr. Malkawi's paper, a representative of USAID wanted to know whether French equipment suitable for processing "Spot" images would be compatible with its U.S. counterpart which processes images beamed by the American "Landsat".

The French experts confirmed the compatibility by pointing out that, while the basic equipment would remain the same, a higher level of technology and training was needed to process the "Spot" images when compared with "Landsat" images.

Actively taking part in the debate over other aspects of the papers presented by the French experts and Mr. Malkawi were Dr. Marwan Muasher from the Ministry of Planning, Meteorology Department Director Dr. Ali Abanda, Mr. Bassam Souma from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Department of Geology, Dr. Omar Al Asfar from Yarmouk University and Mr. Mohammad Khasawneh from the Jordanian Earth Station.

Afternoon session

In the afternoon session, French delegates Ph. Rebillard, P.N. Pascaud and D. Sarraz presented various aspects of registering and classifying spaceborne data for monitoring data.

Mr. Faisal Zureiqat of the JNGC presented a paper on Jordan's experience in digital processing and classifying data.

Another paper, presented by Mr. Saifuddin Zahra from the Ministry of Planning, offered an overview of the development of remote sensing and possibilities of using the technology in the process of regional planning in Jordan.

The symposium, which is being held at the JNGC at Jubeiha, continues today.

Jordanian papers

The first Jordanian paper to be presented at the seminar was on the JNGC's remote sensing project. The paper, presented by Mr. Omar Malkawi of the centre, said Jordan has accepted the effectiveness of remote sensing in different areas of applications. The Jordanian government has decided to set up a remote sensing centre within the JNGC and is currently holding talks with the United Nations Development Pro-

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 Jordan Press Foundation.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
 Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
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Behind VAT lies annexation

UNDER the guise of a proposal to amend Israel's value added tax (VAT) law, the Labour-Likud government is suggesting annexation of the occupied Arab territories. This is the gist of an article written by members of the Arab-Israeli Progressive List for Peace (PLP) and published in Israeli recently. Although a state of creeping annexation has existed for years, the article says, the coalition government is now taking the unprecedented step of formalising the incorporation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip by an act of legislation. In the cases of East Jerusalem (1967) and the Golan Heights (1982), the respective Labour and Likud governments had annexed the territories in one "clean" sweep. Today the coalition government is proposing to incorporate the remaining parts through the backdoor — via an amendment to a tax law. A short perusal of this law's wording can leave no other impression.

The Israeli government's proposed amendment to VAT never mentions the West Bank and Gaza Strip by name. While Labour-Likud and the Israeli media have for years referred to the occupied territories as "Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District," its strict definition in Israeli Law books (and International Law) has been — at least until now — "Territories held by the Israeli Defence Forces." However, in the proposed tax amendment the government has introduced a new legal term for the occupied territories: the "Region." The tax amendment then goes on to state (paragraph 1A(A2)) that "The sale of property to a resident of the region, or anyone travelling to the region will not be considered as a sale to a foreign resident or as if anyone has left Israel." In other words, Palestinians living in the "Region" are no longer to be perceived as foreign residents, and an Israeli travelling to the occupied territories is no longer to be viewed as if he has left the territorial boundaries of Israel. Paragraph 60 clarifies further the status of the occupied territories when it states that "Business and activities in the region will not be considered as business and activities undertaken outside of Israel." Products exported and imported between Israel and the "Region" are therefore no longer to be perceived as foreign exchanges. It should be noted that this is in contradistinction to the current phrasing of the law.

This is the first time that any Israeli legislation has declared the West Bank and Gaza Strip not to be foreign territories. The only logical conclusion therefore, is: that they are now to be considered part of Israel. Although the tax amendment deals with fiscal matters — selling and buying of property and products in the occupied territories — the law's adoption by the Knesset would set an automatic legal precedent for any future law relevant to the status of the West Bank-Gaza Strip and its Palestinian inhabitants.

The law also refers to the rights of the Jewish communities abroad in regards to the "Region." Paragraph 40 states that the law affects "anyone who can be covered by The Law of Return." The latter relegates to Jews throughout the world certain privileges once they are in Israel (even as tourists) and automatic Israeli citizenship unless they refuse explicitly. While this immigration law has so far only been relevant to Israel, the government's tax amendment proposes to include the occupied territories in the domain of Jewish privileges.

This whole issue of the VAT amendment has to be taken seriously by us Arabs, and consequently by the international community, and not just by a small number of peace activists inside Israel. What the Israeli government is doing here, dangerous and illegal as it is, can be easily overshadowed, even covered, by the subtle statements that Shimon Peres and his Labour Party like to make on the future status of the occupied territories. The least we could do to abort the new Israeli scheme is to take up the issue at international fora and expose Israel's real intentions behind the VAT amendment and other illegal measures similar to it. It may well be easy for us to discern the latest Israeli move as another link in the annexationist chain, but it is not necessarily so for the rest of the world. There is too much at stake here to remain silent.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: The danger from within

THE Arab League Council opens its 85th meeting in Tunis Monday to study a report by a seven member Arab committee on the Gulf war. The foreign ministers, attending the conference, will discuss the report which no doubt expresses regret that the war continues despite the mediation efforts. But the most regrettable thing about the situation is that the Arab countries are divided among themselves on this war, and as Iraq is involved in a battle in defence of the nation, a number of Arab countries choose to stand aside and look on as if the war is not of their concern. In the past we have been used to blaming most of our setbacks and defeats on external forces, plotting against the Arab nation. But now we are facing an external aggression and still fail to rally our ranks and back the Iraqis to thwart the Iranian ambitions and intentions. The Arab League will be confronted with a report that would tell of the continued weakness and divisions among Arab states which cannot find a means of defending themselves against the common danger.

Al Dustour: U.S. designs against Libya

THE United States has carried out another naval exercise in the Mediterranean off the Libyan shores in another and more determined attempt to draw reaction from its leader Muammar Qadhafi. The U.S. wants the Libyans to react so that it will launch an aggression on Libyan territory. Despite the fact that we reject Qadhafi's stands and policies towards Arab countries in general and the Gulf war in particular, we consider the American exercises as a provocative action against an Arab land, coming from a superpower. This exercise and this provocation will no doubt create a tense atmosphere that could endanger world security and peace. With this action, the United States is paving the way for other provocations by other world powers which could embark on oppressive measures against Third World countries. By taking the international law into its own hands the U.S. is thus returning to gunboat diplomacy which has been rejected by international laws and denounced by the United Nations.

Sawt Al Shaab: Sudan's need for Arab help

THE Sudanese finance minister spoke at a press conference in Amman Sunday outlining to the great astonishment of the audience the heavy debts which his country is carrying. Sudan, he said, has to pay world banks and financial institutions large sums of money which it obtained in the form of loans and used by former regimes on matters not benefiting the Sudanese people in any way. The minister also explained that Sudan is faced with a very difficult economic situation as a result of Numeiri's policies and the absence of productive power and planning in the country. In the face of this pitiable situation and in view of the famine and food shortage which Sudan is now facing, the Arabs have to make moves towards helping that country regain its balance. The Sudanese people own vast areas of lands, but they cannot produce anything and there are millions of people in Sudan who are helpless because they lack funds to start projects. The Arab countries which possess vast sums of money and a great deal of unused capital should come to the help of their Sudanese brothers and help them overcome the present difficult conditions.

International development and draining of developing countries' debts

By Janez Stanovnik

WHEN it became clear by the middle of last year that the massive "IMF rescheduling" operation had not produced the expected results in the world "debt problem," we have asked the question: "What next?" Not before long, in October, the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank provided an answer inspired by the new U.S. Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III. The Managing Director of the IMF de Larosiere was fast in streamlining with the new winds and summarising it in a catchword "growing out of debt." The world was startled by the parade of those who, having argued for half a decade that austerity in consumption and investment, and a reduction in spending and imports were a cure for the world debt problem, now suddenly argued that the policy should now make a U-turn and put the emphasis on growth.

But better late than never. The question which remains to be answered though is: how? How to do it, particularly after the lasting damage which was done to the economies of the developing countries by the policies pursued during the first half of the 80's: too many investment projects were stopped half-finished, the disinvestment in education has caused lasting damage to human capital, the "brain-drain" accelerated, the "poor man's gift" of \$65 billion (see London "Economist" of November 30, 1985) exhausted the savings and reserves of the developing countries. In short: what was done cannot easily be undone.

New growth formula

U.S. Secretary of the Treasury summarised his "Programme for sustained growth" on October 22 before the U.S. House of Representatives in three points: First, the adoption by the principal dev-

elopment debtor countries of structural growth policies combined with foreign adjustment and reduced inflation, second, bringing the multilateral development banks into the play, and, third, increasing lending by the private banks. One could hardly refrain from applauding. But the devil — once again — hides in the detail. And U.S. Secretary of the Treasury is evidently aware of those details.

Structural adjustment policies on the part of the developing countries could yield a wholesome result only if they are matched by the parallel efforts of the developed countries. If though the protectionist policies of the industrialised countries continue to block the developing countries access to their markets, whenever the latter reach the international standard of efficiency in a certain line of production, the entire development effort will be consumed by permanent adjustment. The developing countries will come into the role of Alice in the Wonderland: the running will take all their energy just to stay in place.

Increased lending through the World Bank and other multilateral regional banks is certainly the right approach to the problem. But already last year the World Bank's lending authority was bigger than the borrowing capacity of the indebted developing countries. Increasing "reliance on the private sector" and more "supply-side action" will not increase the borrowing capacity of the developing countries. Lip-service to the prevailing ideologies in the developed world will not change the hard realities of the developing world.

The "Baker Plan" calls on commercial banks to join in providing "new money" to the extent of \$20 billion for the coming three years. There is no point in arguing whether this new lending helps the banks more than the debtor developing countries.

The private transnational banks accepted the "Baker Plan" and agreed to increase their lending from a trifle \$4 billion last year to a possible \$10 billion this year. But even such an increase in commercial bank lending has to be compared with \$50.2 billion in long- and short-term lending by the banks in 1980 (as reported by the IMF October "Economic Outlook").

One could hardly refrain from joining the prevailing sentiment of the developing countries in Seoul: "too little and too late."

Facing hard facts

It is easy to be critical — and even cynical — under the pressure of the harsh reality prevailing in the developing world after the economic disaster which lasted for half a decade. But it is no less important to see the silver lining behind the clouds. The fact is that it is today universally recognised that the "creditworthiness" of the indebted developing countries cannot be restored by an austerity policy which will produce trade surplus and ensure the outflow of savings and reserves to the creditors, but by a healthy growth policy which will put people back to work, the resources to productive uses and which will lead purpose to human creative genius. This change in general attitude in the world is to be welcomed. If the world is able to accept this fundamental truth it should be able to accept a couple of other hard facts of life in the contemporary world economy.

It is a hard fact of life that today the indebted developing countries are bleeding. IMF reported that last year the so called "capital-importing" developing countries were paying \$76.2 billion for the interest on debt alone, or \$140.8 billion for the total debt service payments. This represents 26 per cent of their total exports. And the Morgan Guaranty Trust researchers calculated for the ten

largest world debtor countries the ratio of interest payments alone amounting to 31 per cent of the total export earnings of those countries. This amounts to close on 10 per cent of the GNP of the most indebted countries. When a decade ago the increase of oil prices required the developed countries to transfer to the oil exporting countries some 3 per cent of their GNP, Mr. Kissinger likened this to "strangulation." What expression could one find then for what is happening to the indebted developing countries today?

It is a hard fact of life that we have come into the state of world economy with a reverse and perverse flow of capital. Researches in the U.N. calculated for 1984 a net capital inflow into the developing countries of \$37.5 billion, and outflow for interest payments alone of \$50.5 billion, which produced a net transfer from South to the North of \$13 billion. While in 1980 the developing countries were still recording a net capital inflow to the tune of \$36.1 billion, from 1982 onwards they were suffering continuously from capital outflows: \$1.7 billion in 1982, \$3 billion in 1983, and \$13 billion in 1984.

What is the point of organising a more or less "captured" lending of some \$10 billion when so much more is being taken by the banks from the same countries on account of interest payments only?

The "Baker Plan" deals primarily with the 15 most heavily indebted countries — among which is also Yugoslavia. The total debt of those countries amounts to \$437 billion, and last year they were paying \$45 billion on interest alone. In 1984 those countries together produced under the pressure of the IMF conditionality a trade surplus of \$44 billion — hardly enough to pay for interest! The trend in 1985 was reversed, as a slow-down in recovery in the developed countries did not produce enough import demand to make

up for such a large export surplus of the most heavily indebted countries. Could a flow of some \$10 billion — envisaged by the "Baker Plan" — reverse the disastrous trends in the most heavily indebted countries first and in the world at large?

Need for new approach

There is now a hope for the world economy. Dark and frightening the actual reality and trends within it may be. Hope lies in the fact that the most responsible people of the world's finance and economy have finally realised that the policies pursued so far were madness and that a radical change is needed. It matters little what they say. It is only normal that they have to repeat the ideological litany and use doctrinaire rhetorics. The fact is though that they have realised now that the world is doomed without growth. We must build on this ground.

If growth in the developing countries is to start again — and this in all and not only the 15 most heavily indebted ones — then the blood-letting must be stopped. How?

The debt burden has reached the point of absurdity: \$865.1 billion for 1985 by IMF estimates. Last year private banks were increasing their reserves from the interest received knowing that some of those loans are highly risky and their "exposure" is therefore too big. Would it not be more normal if the world were to follow — in one way or another — a procedure of writing off some of the bad loans and discounting the value of others? Would such an agreed procedure not be more sound than waiting for the day when a forced default will push us into a much worse situation?

The burden of interest payments must be relieved. It is totally absurd that the developing

countries, which have practically reached the point of economic stagnation and where internal profits are approaching zero and economic losses are increasing, are at the same time paying more than 10 per cent on foreign loans. Formulas for "capping" the interest rates abound. There is a need, though, for an enlightened self-interest.

There must be a relationship between the debt payments and the possibilities of the debtor countries to earn foreign exchange. The developing countries have no control over the state of the world economy and consequently over the import demand in the world. The creditor countries do. The world cannot pursue at the same time a protectionist import policy and demand the prompt and full payment of debt obligations. There is a close connection between trade and finance. The debt cannot be treated in separation. There is a need therefore for a brave comprehensive consideration of global trade, monetary and finance questions.

There would be no problem whatsoever to do all the rest for a "sustained growth": taming the inflation, stimulating domestic savings and preventing the outflow of capital, providing the incentives for individual initiative and creativity, moving towards a structural change, adjusting the balance of payments, etc. There is little hope for a sound domestic development policy as long as the blood-letting continues. The experience of the austerity period has shown that the outflow of debt service was the single most important source of inflation, absorption of national savings, frustration of individual incentives and creativity and upsetting the foreign balances.

There is a hope. If only the solutions are sought by reason and not by brute superior power — Review of International Affairs, Belgrade.

IMF unpopular in Africa but its medicine is swallowed

By Giles Elgood
 Reuters

LAGOS — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is far from popular in Africa but its prescriptions for the continent's economic ills are generally being swallowed these days all the same.

The image of the Washington-based fund in Africa is often that of a body whose harsh austerity recommendations bring unacceptable hardship and take little account of the needs of the common people.

Tanzania, which has for five years been resisting the fund's economic ideas, said this month the IMF does not act in Africa's interests and its finance minister urged creation of an alternative African monetary fund "which will be capable of meeting our development needs."

While many African governments recognise that the problems of external debt, import dependence and slumping productivity need tough action, they are reluctant for political reasons to let the IMF be seen to take that action for them.

But a Reuters survey shows that often IMF principles are being adopted and that in one country, Ghana, the fund can claim some success. IMF policies have been put into practice there and the country is enjoying a return to healthy growth.

Nigeria last December called off protracted negotiations with the IMF over a \$2.5 billion support package, but has since brought in austerity measures demanded by the fund as conditions for the loan.

The president, General Ibrahim Babangida, has said that the moves, which include salary cuts, a reduction of domestic fuel subsidies and a ban on imports of rice and maize, go beyond what the IMF wanted.

Soon after taking power in a coup six months ago, Babangida said he wanted to resolve the question of the loan talks with the fund. He recognised its political sensitivity and threw the issue open to a national debate.

The response was a media blitz in which those who spoke in favour of the loan were drowned by a chorus of emotional opposition which focused on a reluctance to have the fund move in to solve Nigeria's economic problems.

The fund's conditions for the Nigerian loan were seen as too harsh, and the military government overthrown by Babangida had already rejected demands for a sharp devaluation, an end to fuel subsidies and liberalisation of trade.

Ousted military leader General Mohammed Buhari even raised the prospect of riots and civil unrest if the IMF's measures were imposed. So far, nothing of the sort has happened in Nigeria.

While the rejection of the IMF loan was popular with a broad

cross section of the Nigerian public, going it alone without the fund poses questions about Nigeria's ability to reach an urgently needed rescheduling deal with creditors.

Nigeria has called for talks with creditor commercial banks, but foreign governments, who are also important lenders, have long made it clear that they will not reschedule or provide more credit without an agreement with the IMF.

The sharp fall in the price of oil, on which Nigeria depends for over 95 per cent of its foreign exchange earnings, has made the need for agreement with creditors more urgent.

The IMF's response to criticism of the kind it faces in Africa, where over two dozen countries have borrowed from it so far, is that it is often brought in too late.

IMF managing director Jacques de Larosiere also has said bluntly that no country can live permanently beyond its means.

Zambia, once one of black Africa's most prosperous nations, first turned to the IMF in 1981. But now five years later, the IMF is widely accused of worsening the country's sad economic plight by pressuring the government to abolish subsidies on most goods, thus fueling inflation to above 20 per cent.

The fund has become even more unpopular since last October when after months of delay it persuaded the government to introduce foreign exchange auctions, which brought a 56 per cent devaluation overnight and raised the cost of imports.

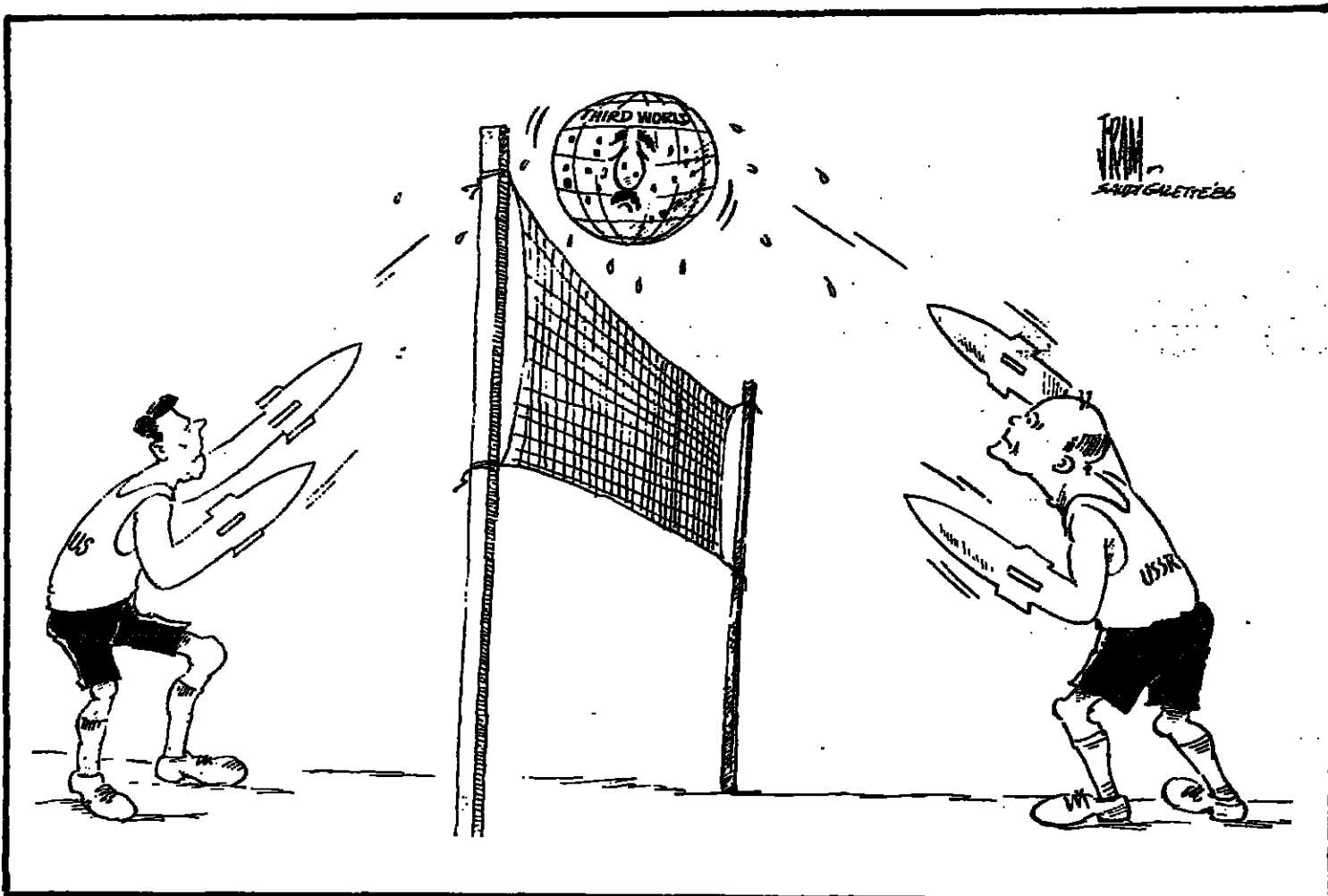
The IMF has, however, record at least one success story in Africa, with Ghana doing everything it urged and, after years of decline, showing signs of healthy growth in 1984 and 1985. Public acceptance of the steps was helped by the government, despite a radical posture, presenting them as its own.

Ghana's measures, which include massive devaluation of the once-worthless cedi aimed at boosting commodity exports and slimming down a bloated public sector, have been rewarded with large doses of Western aid.

There are signs too that Burkina Faso, despite the radical slant of the government of Captain Thomas Sankara, may turn to the fund. Captain Henry Zongo, economic promotion minister, has told Reuters he does not rule out an IMF deal.

In Guinea, the dogmatic socialism of former leader Ahmed Sekou Toure meant there was little prospect of any dealings with the IMF despite the economic decay of what was once seen as one of the potentially richest states in Africa.

But since his death in 1984, the military government of Colonel Lansana Conte has agreed to borrow from the fund, pledged to cut down the public sector and replace the country's worthless currency, the syli.



U.S., Soviet nuclear arsenals plagued by unreliability?

By Christopher Hanson
 Reuters

WASHINGTON — American officials, arguing that nuclear tests are vital for the reliability of nuclear weapons, have begun revealing once-secret data on malfunctions by the weapons, many of which have been dudd.

At issue is a Soviet proposal to end superpower nuclear testing which Washington has rejected, questioning whether adequate safeguards against cheating could be found.

U.S. officials are seeking to bolster their anti-test ban argument by citing sensitive reports which show, among other things, that up to half the Polaris submarine-launched nuclear missile warheads could have been dud in the 1960s.

Such problems can be corrected by continued weapons testing, but a test ban could cause the reliability of the U.S. arsenal to deteriorate, Reagan administration officials have told Congress.

However, there is little evidence that the Soviet Union's nuclear force is any more reliable than that of the United States.

Some U.S. officials say Soviet atomic weapons are simpler than U.S. weapons and less prone to failure, but congressional nuclear arms experts think Moscow has serious problems, too.

Massachusetts Democrat on the armed services committee.

Atomic weapons, some with more than 2,000 delicate parts, are prone to electrical malfunction and corrosion.

Congressional sources say there have been problems with the reliability of some U.S. nuclear weapons now deployed, but detailed data on dud weapons focuses on the 1970s and before.

"At times in the past the warheads for a large part of the U.S. submarine nuclear missile force have been found to be badly deteriorated. At different times, a large fraction of the warheads... were obvious or potential duds," said a Department of Energy report to Congress.

Some U.S. officials say Soviet atomic weapons are simpler than U.S. weapons and less prone to failure, but congressional nuclear arms experts think Moscow has serious problems, too.

Up to 50 per cent of Polaris submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) were found to be dud in 1965 because of malfunctioning missile arming devices, the report said. If the problem had gone unchecked, 100 per cent of the missiles might have failed, it said.

The more sophisticated Poseidon SLBM developed problems when chemical reactions between explosives and metal led to corrosion, and in 1979, several thousand had to be rebuilt, the report said.

It said the land-based Min-

uteman intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) was beset with difficulties in the 1960s, when arming mechanisms malfunctioned, and 160 of the missiles had to be rebuilt.

The U.S. army's W-45 short-range tactical nuclear missile developed "serious corrosion" and many were eliminated from the stockpile, the report said.

A U.S. nuclear arms expert with access to missile test data told Reuters four tests were conducted of Minuteman missiles from "operational" missiles silos in combat-simulation tests in 1966-68 — and all failed.

Three of the missiles never left their silos due to electrical problems. The fourth had to be des-

Some U.S. officials say Soviet atomic weapons are simpler than U.S. weapons and less prone to failure, but congressional nuclear arms experts think Moscow has serious problems, too. Some experts on the Soviet Union estimate that up to one third of the Soviet missile force is down for repairs at any given time.

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Soviet SLBMs also use liquid fuel, posing dangers to submarine crews. That is one reason that less than 20 per cent of Soviet nuclear submarines usually are at sea, the sources said.

U.S. officials told Reuters the Central Intelligence Agency, revising earlier assessments, recently concluded the SS-19 is not reliable or accurate enough for use in a surprise first strike against U.S. missiles in their silos.

Retired U.S. General Maxwell Taylor wrote in 1983: "The Soviets are deterred not only by our weapons but also by concerns about the reliability of their own missiles."

Some U.S. arms control advocates say it would be possible to check the reliability of nuclear weapons by testing component parts without conducting atomic test blasts.

But retired Admiral Eugene Larocque disputed this, telling Reuters: "It is not possible to ensure the reliability of a weapon unless you test it to its entirety."

Larocque, who heads the liberal research group, Centre for Defence Information, said a nuclear test ban was desirable precisely because it would reduce the reliability of superpower nuclear weapons and thus lower the temptation to launch a nuclear first strike during a crisis.

But U.S. officials say ban would prevent Washington from completing modernisation of its nuclear arsenal and give Moscow a dangerous edge.

Nuclear weapons tests above ground were barred in a 1963 limited test ban treaty and since then, superpower tests have been conducted underground.

Marcos: Raiding the environmental larder

By Erlinda Bolido

For 20 years, ex-president Marcos and his cronies engaged in "asset-stripping" of the Philippines environment. Deforestation, soil erosion, rural unemployment and urban slums were the result — all problems which Mrs. Aquino must now confront.

MANILA, Philippines — Fleeing the country with his wife Imelda, his entourage and his bags of gold, ex-president Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines left his signature written into the landscape he left behind.

One of the most visible monuments to his 20-year rule is the more than five million hectares of wasteland which have been created by a government policy of reckless forest clearance. Every hour, two hectares of forest are destroyed by logging, plantation clearance or slash-and-burn cultivation.

The National Environmental Protection Council has warned that at the present rate of destruction "all virgin forests of commercial value in the Philippines will be gone by 1990."

Illegal commercial logging saw its heyday under the Marcos regime. A lucrative enterprise for many of the ousted president's cronies, it is now being investigated by Ernesto Maceda, the newly appointed environment minister in the Aquino cabinet.

Maceda has ordered the audit of 10 logging firms, with a further 170, all owned by former Marcos henchmen, to follow. Reports reaching his ministry indicate that about 90 per cent of the companies have been violating forestry laws.

Agricultural policies adopted by Marcos also contributed to rapid loss of tree cover. Clearance for large-scale cash crop plantations, particularly on the southern island of Mindanao, has now replaced logging as the major

cause of deforestation.

The resultant soil erosion is up to 50 times higher than it would have been if the land had been left under forest cover. In open fields and croplands soil is being lost at the rate of more than 100 tonnes per hectare.

The "green revolution" drive toward greater rice production using high-yield varieties has been accompanied by a trend toward ever-larger corporate farms. As land-holdings were consolidated, often in the hands of the ex-president's friends, small farmers were dispossessed of even rented land.

Thousands of those displaced have had to resort to slash-and-burn cultivation, overworking nutrient-poor tropical soils in the process. Studies show that all of the Philippine's 72 provinces suffer from serious and increasing degrees of soil erosion. Hilly regions, which constitute one-third of the country's land area, are eroding at an alarming rate.

Deforestation exacerbates the effects of both floods and drought. In 1984, 1,000 people died when Mindanao was hit by typhoons. Lack of trees made the floods which accompanied these storms much more severe than they need have been. Just one year before the floods, a six-month drought in Mindanao destroyed millions of dollars worth of crops.

Resource and agricultural exports — of logs, coconut meal and oil, sugar, bananas, pineapples and copper — constitute three-



The Marcos legacy: Manila slums peopled by refugees from a savaged countryside. (Photo by Sean Sprague — Earthscan)

quarters of the Philippine's export earnings. But increased mechanisation and concentration of ownership have created massive rural unemployment.

More and more migrants are drawn to urban centres, particularly metro Manila. With just 1 per cent of the nation's surface area, Manila holds 12 per cent of its population. The city is doubling in size every 15 years, and the majority of its more than seven million inhabitants are poor and ill-housed.

In the Marcos government, the task of upgrading Manila's slums rested with Imelda Marcos and her Ministry of Human Set-

tlements. Under her direction, the ministry squandered its resources on showcase projects like the "University of Life," an expensive institution whose objectives and activities remain vague to the average Filipino.

The ministry initiated the Bagong Lipunan (New Society) model housing projects. The model communities, designated "Urban Bliss" in Manila and "Rural Bliss" in suburban areas, were detailed in glossy brochures littered with pictures of the first lady giving speeches and making presentations.

As with almost everything else in the latter years of the Marcos

regime, political influence became the most important consideration in acquiring a "bliss house," with units very rarely ending up in the hands of the low-salaried employees for whom they were intended.

Periodically Mrs. Marcos instituted slum clearance programmes, attempting to relocate squatters outside of town. But as jobs remained in the urban centres and basic services and facilities were lacking in the resettlement areas, squatters soon returned to the slums of metro Manila. Eventually, to hide them from visiting foreigners, Imelda built high white-washed walls around slum

areas. In the recent election campaign Marcos claimed to have won the votes of Manila's poor. According to reports, during the campaign he assured squatters that they would not be evicted if he won.

Recent attempts to relocate slum dwellers have been met with increasingly violent resistance. The issue promises to be one of the most sensitive that Mrs. Aquino will have to cope with.

But in a sense it is only a symptom of the greater problem, which has its roots in the countryside, and in the Marcos decades of wholesale environmental destruction — Earthscan feature.

Move'em, don't fell'em, says tree expert

DON'T fell trees, transplant them!" has been the slogan of DGG, a group specialising in transplantation of fully-grown trees, for 10 years. You can carry out construction work and still give trees a chance, says Hans-Helmut Peim.

Herr Peim, 42, is in charge of the DGG agency in Uetersen, near Hamburg. Trees up to a century old, with trunks of two metres in diameter and weighing up to 30 tonnes, can be transplanted.

His company has developed special machinery and techniques that are claimed to guarantee a 95-per cent success rate.

Even in midsummer and full leaf, trees can be shifted from one location to another.

They are, he says, living filters that purify the air we breathe. A fully-grown tree meets the oxygen requirements of 64 people.

The surface of its leaves traps dust and soot. Trees provide shade, regulate the temperature and absorb noise.

Eight different machines are kept in stock at the group's Nuremberg head office to dig a circular trench wide enough to uproot large trees.

The 12 member-firm coordinate activities to make best use of the expensive machinery. It is put to work both in Germany and abroad. At the time of writing two special vehicles were in use in Paris and Grenoble.

The largest excavator can be used to transplant trees with trunks up to 1.50 metres in diameter. The root ball is about 4.5

cubic metres in volume. Difficulties can occur with trees that haven't been prepared for transplantation, it seems, while trees with flat roots, such as birch, beech and alder don't transplant well.

Linden, maple and plane trees transplant more readily, as the tall plane trees along Gorch-Fock-Wall and Sievekingsallee in Hamburg prove.

They were transplanted to their present location six or seven years ago and are flourishing. The new location must be similar to, or preferably even better than, where the tree stood beforehand, Herr Peim says.

A roadside tree transplanted into a park will as a rule respond by luxuriant growth.

Yet transplantation, complicated and expensive, doesn't work unless suitable after-care is provided. Safe anchorage, for instance, ensures that fine new roots are not severed.

Jute bandages tied round the trunk or larger branches prevent too much evaporation when trees are subjected to intensive sunlight.

Last not least, transplanted trees must be trimmed to ensure survival. The aim is to strike a balance between roots and treetop.

Last year Herr Peim's firm had a 99-per cent success rate with the trees it transplanted. The largest was a linden tree with a trunk 80cm in diameter that now stands in a Hamburg street.

Reprinted from General-Anzeiger, Bonn, Feb. 15, 1986.

Taking stock of a new securities exchange

A small stock exchange in the U.S. Midwest is wending shivers down the spines of officials of other exchanges in every continent. Alan Cane describes how the all-electronic Cincinnati market in Cincinnati is expected to be a model for the rest of the world.

CINCINNATI — One day recently, the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) dealt in some 154 million shares; the Cincinnati Stock Exchange, based in Ohio, dealt in 252,000. "In terms of volume, its market share is very, very small any way you look at it," an NYSE official said dismissively.

But Cincinnati is sending shivers down the spines of senior stock exchange officials in every continent. What makes it more than just a little regional organisation, the smallest of the seven stock exchanges in the U.S., and what gives it its peculiar importance to other markets around the world, is its mode of operation.

It is the only all-electronic securities exchange and, as such, a model for what many expect stock markets everywhere to look like soon.

There is no trading floor. Its member firms can be located anywhere in the U.S. and they deal from their own offices, using computer terminals.

From the moment they press the "go" button, their bargains are handled automatically; within three seconds of a transaction, both parties to the trade receive confirmation through a computer print-out in member firms' offices.

In recognition of this geographical independence of any central market, the Cincinnati exchange has just secured the authority to change its name to The United States Stock Exchange, a somewhat grandiose title for a market with only about 85 members, even if it is growing at about 30 per cent a year.

Mr. Richard Niehoff, president of the exchange, says that the change of name is still under consideration by its council, but he points out: "The computer system literally is the exchange, and the terminals located in our member firms' offices are the spokes to the hub."

It costs about \$6,000 for a seat in Cincinnati compared with about \$400,000 in New York. The Cincinnati exchange has trading privileges in about 1,200 stocks and is looking for the same in all listed stocks.

Now, through an agreement with the U.K. software house Software Sciences, a subsidiary of Thorn EMI, the Cincinnati system — called National Securities Trading System or NSTS — is available to European exchanges and larger trading houses, offering a quick hop into the electronic tomorrow.

Put crudely, for about \$2 million (\$4.9 million) in hardware and software, an organisation can buy itself a stock exchange.

Software Sciences is already involved in the computerisation of the City in preparation for the deregulation — dubbed the "Big Bang" — in October this year through its leadership of a consortium of trading houses installing a U.S.-written computer package, COLT, for inventory control.

The COLT consortium includes financial services groups such as Barclays, de Zoete Wedd, County Bank, Cazenove, James Capel and

Kleinwort Grieson.

A key issue is the reliability of the computers involved; NSTS and COLT both run on Stratus computers, a fail-safe machine to which IBM has put its name.

Mainland European exchanges are desperately interested in such systems, concerned that what international business they have could be siphoned off to London after the Big Bang.

Mr. A. R. Brown, Software Sciences marketing director for the finance industries, reports powerful interest from Holland, where the Amsterdam Exchange and the European Options Exchange are looking for new technology to improve their competitiveness.

For the larger trading houses, Mr. Brown sees NSTS as an opportunity to offer "one stop shopping" to their institutional clients.

The NSTS system provides for the retail broker, for example: — Individual price watch facilities; the broker can set up a screen specially tailored to the securities in which he is interested. As the prices change, so the screen is updated; a stock is highlighted on the screen for about five seconds when a price changes.

Public limit order book display; orders can be added to the system at a particular price and will reside there until the stock reaches that price, when the bargain is executed automatically. The public limit order book display gives dealers an idea of the demand for a particular stock at a particular price.

No existing system in Europe has such comprehensive facilities. The Milan Bourse is experimenting with a small computer-based dealing system, but it has no automated dealing capacity. The U.K. Reuters, the news agency, proposes to launch the Instinet, automated dealing system, which lacks the back office capability and information systems capability of NSTS.

The London Exchange is proceeding with its own automated execution facilities, SAEF and BLOX, to add to its SEAQ electronic information systems. What is giving senior executives in traditional exchanges sleepless nights, however, is the capacity of NSTS to take decisions out of the hands of the central exchange altogether.

A firm with NSTS would be effectively a mini stock exchange, free of regulation and with significant potential to take business from the main exchange. Several big firms with NSTS could threaten investor security because of their effective freedom from market controls.

Mr. Michael Newman, head of information and trading systems at the London Exchange, acknowledged the worry: "This is very much a concern of ours; how much to do ourselves and how much to leave to other people."

Heart transplant pioneer under fire for skin care products

By Robert Basler

Reuter

NEW YORK — Christian Barnard, who 19 years ago made history with the world's first successful heart transplant, is now selling his name to promote skin gels, lotions and anti-ageing creams.

He is a doctor besieged — by the painful arthritis that cut short his career and by his South African passport that has made him fearful of talking to blacks.

He is besieged, too, by his link with skin products seen by their makers as an "important scientific breakthrough" but dismissed by critics as never likely to be effective.

For his part, Barnard sees parallels between his present position and his past experience as the doctor who in 1967 performed the first successful human heart transplant.

"Anything that I'm involved in because I'm a known figure is praised and criticised," he told Reuters in an interview while visiting New York.

"My father used to tell me an Afrikaans saying — the highest trees get the most wind."

It is three years since Barnard retired from heart surgery. "I'm

not crippled but I always have pain," he says, holding out his hands, swollen from carrying a suitcase.

But Barnard, who now divides his time between South Africa and the United States, says it was more than arthritis that caused him to give up surgery.

"In order to be good at your profession you must be hungry for it. I haven't got that hunger anymore," he says.

The present controversy surrounding Barnard concerns a new line of skin products containing glycosphingolipids — GSL for short.

Barnard was a member of a research team in Switzerland which studied the effect of GSL on the ageing and rejuvenation of human skin.

The result was Glycel, a pricey line of skin care products whose "Cellular anti-ageing cream," for example, is selling for \$75 an ounce. The line is being sold in the United States, Switzerland and Canada, and will gradually be introduced to other foreign markets.

Glycel products are said by their makers to restore elasticity to skin, accelerate cell renewal and "encourage skin rejuvenation."

In the highly competitive Ame-



Dr. Christian Barnard

rican cosmetic business, Barnard's "breakthrough" was met with cynicism at best and a full-scale assault from some quarters.

"This is a hoax. It's not cre-

dible," Dr. Norman Orentreich, a prominent New York dermatologist, told Reuters. "He's selling his name to sell a product — he's using his reputation to sell a lie."

Orentreich, who has worked as an adviser for another line of skin care products, says the GSL molecule is simply too large to penetrate human skin.

"It's like an elephant going into an apartment," he said.

But Barnard insists that GSL does indeed penetrate skin, and says his critics have not even studied Glycel.

He is careful to stress that he speaks only for the ingredient GSL, and says he does not know what other ingredients Glycel contains, or how the product compares to other skin care lines.

"I don't know what this product will do that others won't do, because I haven't studied other skin products."

But Barnard's name, reputation and pictures are used prominently in marketing the Glycel line in department stores, and promotional appearances by him are being planned.

Pressed to make some comment about the quality of the Glycel line, Barnard adds, "nobody ever

has before introduced into a cosmetic product a substance that has been proven to have regenerative properties in the laboratory."

"Skin cells turn over all the time. With ageing that turnover becomes much less. This product will increase the turnover of skin cells."

He will not discuss financial details of his arrangement with Glycel but acknowledges, "this is a commercial venture so I am getting remuneration for my services."

He says he never had a private practice, and his financial situation requires him to work. His pension from the South African hospital, he says, is about \$600 a month.

Barnard has other irons in the fire, including two restaurants he owns in South Africa.

He also spends several months a year at the Baptist Medical Centre in Oklahoma City, where as a scientist in residence he is working to establish what he hopes will be "one of the top transplant centres in the world."

He says the heart transplant has become such a universal operation that he would feel safe having the procedure done almost anywhere. He performed about 75 tra-

nsplants, and one of his patients is still living 15 years after his transplant.

The surgeon is cautious in his evaluation of more recent developments in the field.

He says there may be a place for the artificial heart in the future, but he is not in favour of its use as a permanent replacement for the human heart in clinical practice today.

"There may be a future to it, but at the moment it just doesn't give the same quality of life that a transplant can give," he says, adding that he also regards the use of animal hearts as never exploring "as an interim device."

Barnard says he will go where his work takes him, but that he will never leave South Africa for good.

His nationality has also contributed to his general state of siege, as he says he finds it necessary to defend his country even though he would "never defend apartheid" — South Africa's controversial system of racial separation.

"I'm sometimes afraid to say I'm a South African," he adds. "When I drive in a taxi especially when the driver is a black man, I wouldn't say I'm South African because I'm afraid."

Muscovites respond to early signs of spring

By Tony Barber

Reuter

MOSCOW — The boldest young Moscow have put their fur hats in storage for a few months, the peasant markets are selling more fruit, and an eerie bright light is breaking through the Moscow sky at dawn.

But the surest sign that spring is on its way are the rivers of muddy slush swirling in the streets, squares, pavement and parks and forming small lagoons underneath trees awaiting their first new leaves of the year.

Mountains of snow, stacked up over a winter which lasted four and a half months, are finally melting, saturating the feet of inexperienced visitors who are ill-advised enough to go outside without winter boots as well as hats.

Muscovites worked out the answer some time ago. They set out for offices wearing waterproof boots, which they exchange for indoor shoes upon arrival.

The Russian spring carries some unusual perils. Blocks of ice, some as big as typewriters, burble down from buildings where they formed in the winter. Dumbfounded car owners are occasionally confronted with windcreens smashed by ice.

For Soviet drivers who were not equipped with snow tyres, the spring thaw is a happier time. Winter offered many a sight of little Soviet-made Zhiguli cars skidding on the capital's icy main roads as if they were skating rinks.

Spring also spells a temporary end to traditional Russian pleasures such as skiing in Parks, ice-fishing, and stripping in temperatures of minus 20 centigrade

to bathe in ice-holes in frozen rivers.

Instead, Muscovites are preparing for canoeing on rivers outside the capital and for Sunday trips to the spacious estates of the former Tsarist aristocracy where there are well-tended gardens and mansions turned into small museums.

Welcome spring sights in Moscow are the fruits brought for sale at the central private market by traders from the south. They include strawberries from Uzbekistan, apricots from Turkmenistan and Kirghizia, and these fruits plus cherries and tomatoes from Georgia.

Supplies were irregular in winter, though more oranges appeared during the Communist Party congress at the end of February.

Reset by a fierce winter and a short, intense summer, Russians pin their hopes on good spring weather to help the crops. One saying has it: "A spring day will feed a year."

The thaw came earlier than usual this year, but two telltale signs reveal that the real spring is not yet here. First, blossoms have not appeared on trees and will not do so until late April. In the meantime, Muscovites say, a final frost or even snowfall can be expected.

Secondly, the omnipresent traffic police are still clad in thick winter fur coats, hats and gloves despite temperatures one recent afternoon of nine centigrade. Later in spring they will change into lighter tunics and caps.

The chance that the Russian winter will make one last, defiant snowy gesture is captured in the proverb "one swallow does not make a spring."

Black children slip through apartheid into white's schools

By Marcus Eliason

The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Black and white children romp happily together in the sunshine on the playing fields of Marian College.

A decade ago this scene would have been unimaginable. But Marian and 142 other private schools have slipped through apartheid's cracks.

What they are doing is quietly accepted, a tacit admission that the ideology of strict racial separation is no longer universal.

Marian College is an oasis of inter-racial peace in the turmoil that has plunged much of South Africa's non-white educational system into chaos.

But at Marian in the white suburb of Linmeyer, 500 black and white boys and girls share desks and meals, sing together in the school choir, and swim together.

Marian headmaster Stannard Silcock says the experience has changed white students.

"I would never have imagined those children with their arms around Muziwakhe Zwane, a black child who took a remarkable catch in a cricket match last year," he said.

The spontaneous way they picked him up — they could never have done that before. There would have been that barrier."

Schools like Marian are educating 5 per cent of South Africa's white children towards a multi-racial future.

They lie poised between the riots and boycotts that have disrupted many government schools

for blacks, such as those in the nearby township of Soweto, and the guarded isolation of public schools for whites.

All but 27 of South Africa's private schools, most of them church-run like Marian, have become multi-racial in the past decade. Their black enrollments range from 10 to 45 per cent.

But only the few black parents who have struggled into the middle class can afford such private schools. Segregated state schools, on the other hand, are virtually free of charge.

Private schools started accepting black students in 1976, when South Africa began establishing diplomatic relations with a few neighbouring black states.

"The government had to go to private schools, cap in hand, to ask if the children of the black diplomats could be accepted," says Silcock.

"After a few months it had worked so well that the Marist Brothers (who run Marian College) went to the authorities and asked, 'what about the indigenous blacks?' and they were given a quiet go ahead — in other words, do it at a low key. Make no noise about it."

Now, 17 per cent of Marian's students are black, Indian, Chinese or "coloured," the South African term for mixed-race.

The same year that private schools began integrating, rioting erupted in black townships, largely over inferior black education. Both blacks and white began pressuring for reform.

The government, which has vowed to uphold apartheid in sch-

ools, says it is trying to upgrade black education. The state used to spend 10 times as much educating white pupils as blacks. Now, education officials say the gap has narrowed and the government now spends four times as much on white pupils as blacks.

Apartheid's structures are costly. A mammoth bureaucracy has evolved to maintain segregation, with no fewer than 14 education ministries administering schools in each race sector and the 10 black "homelands."

The government, which has vowed to uphold apartheid in schools, says it is trying to upgrade black education. The state used to spend 10 times as much educating white pupils as blacks. Now, education officials say the gap has narrowed and the government now spends four times as much on white pupils as blacks.

Attending a school like Marian, in the heart of white society, entails an act of faith and an element of risk.

Police sometimes stop and search Marian school buses. Students take off their uniforms before retreating to Soweto to avoid being singled out as "traitors" by leaders of a black school boycott.

At the height of one spell of rioting, Silcock says, two Soweto boys had to stay at his house for 10 days. They could not risk going home.

Few white state schools will play

sports against multi-racial teams, so when Marian holds swimming events, it has to search for the rare pool that will accept blacks and whites together.

On a recent outing, Marian students were not allowed into a wildlife park. It was a Wednesday and the park allowed blacks only on Tuesdays.

But Silcock says his biggest problem is money. The 1,700-rand (850-dollar) annual fee barely covers expenses and leaves nothing to expand, he says. It means Marian turns away thousands of applicants.

Silcock fears government promises to subsidise private schools this year will be accompanied by racial quotas unacceptable to the church.

Reform-minded South Africans are not waiting for the government to dismantle apartheid. The privately funded New Era Schools Trust (NEST) has announced it will build four multi-racial schools in this decade — the first schools to be open to all races from the outset.

A conference organised by the government-funded Human Sciences Research Council last month passed a resolution calling for the immediate desegregation of all schools. But even liberals regard this prospect remote and perhaps unwise.

"There has to be change," Dion Nortje, a white Marian senior, told a visitor to the school. "Otherwise there won't be peace. I don't think it can go too fast because that would escalate the nearest. But it should go faster than it's going."

Piquet and Senna turn in a double for Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazilians Nelson Piquet and Ayrton Senna delighted their home crowd with a one, two victory in Sunday's opening Grand Prix of the Formula One season.

Twice world champion Piquet dominated the race in his Honda-powered Williams, leading the field for 49 of the 61 laps around the looping 5.031 kilometre Jacarepagua Race Track.

Piquet snatched the lead from Senna's Lotus in the third lap. After a 19th lap tyre change he worked relentlessly through the field, smashing the track record on the way, to regain the lead on the 27th.

The cheers of the 70,000 crowd drowned the roar of engines as Piquet passed world champion Frenchman Alain Prost on the box straight.

Prost, who had shunned Goodyear's advice to change tyre twice during the gruelling 307 kilometre (191 mile) race, pulled out five laps later with engine trouble.

Piquet, pinpointed by Prost as the biggest threat to his Formula One crown, maintained a dominant position for the rest of the race, relinquishing the lead to Senna for only one lap while making a second tyre change.

Pole position holder Senna, who narrowly missed disaster in a first-lap tussle which sent Briton Nigel Mansell's Williams spinning off the track, soon recognised Piquet's unassailable position.

Conscious of this season's 195-litre tank limit Senna concentrated on fuel economy, making the final laps at cruising speed to finish nearly 35 seconds behind Piquet.

"I just could not keep up with Piquet's Williams. If I had tried to overtake him I might have run out of fuel, so I decided not to risk it," 26-year-old Senna said.

Piquet's win gave the team of Frank Williams, who is in a London hospital after a serious car accident in France a fortnight ago, their fourth successive victory.

Shortly before the race, Formula One team managers gathered round Piquet's car holding aloft a placard which read "Don't worry Frank, we are minding the shop."

Sunday's victory gave Piquet his

14th Grand Prix win. This was his first outing in any car other than the Brabham he drove for seven years before signing with Williams this season.

Champion in 1981 and 1983, the year he last won here, Piquet said his greatest concern was tyre wear on the world's most punishing Grand Prix circuit.

Although Sunday's temperature of 33 degrees centigrade was well below that of recent years only ten of the 25 starters finished the race.

Piquet told a news conference of his relief when teammate Mansell, whom he saw as his biggest threat, left the track.

"He's got a really good car," he said.

"The victory comes as a moral boost considering that I'm new to the Williams team, my boss has just had a serious road accident and that I was before a home crowd."

"It really is a great thrill," Piquet added.

Prost, who had hoped to get through the race with just one tyre change, said tyre wear had also been his main concern. He said he was surprised when his well-tested Porsche engine let him down.

Real captures 1st title since 1980

MADRID (R) — Real Madrid Sunday clinched the Spanish Soccer Championship four weeks before the end of the season by beating Real Valladolid 2-1 at home.

Real, who gained an unbeatable 10-point lead over reigning champions and closest challengers Barcelona, had not won the title since 1980.

Barcelona were held 1-1 by Sporting.

A crowd of 90,000 filled the majestic Santiago Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid in anticipation of the victory.

But the home side had to wait

until after the interval to score as modest Real Valladolid resisted strongly.

Midfielder Michel Gonzalez celebrated his 23rd birthday on Sunday by breaking the deadlock in the 54th minute with a powerful right-footer which cut through the visitors' defence.

Twelve minutes later, a header by Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez was handled by Valladolid defender Juan Carlos inside the goal. Instead of awarding a goal the referee gave a penalty to Sanchez for crashing against a post.

The Madrid defence suffered from the absence of Michel Che-

ndo, Antonio Maceda and Jose Salguero, all injured, and midfielder Jorge Alonso equalised for Valladolid with a masterly solo effort in the 68th minute.

Nine minutes from time, Emilio Butragueno set up Madrid's winner for Argentine Jorge Valdano.

Real Valladolid kept pressing and had an 89th minute effort by Emilio Sacristan disallowed for a foul.

Barcelona had West German Bernd Schuster back in action after a two-month absence.

Schuster was in fine form but Barcelona replaced him after the interval to avoid exhaustion.

Barcelona dominated despite the absence of midfielder Victor Munoz and Scottish striker Steve Archibald.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Platini is nursing a sore achilles tendon

ROME (R) — Injured French midfielder Michel Platini, out of his country's World Cup warm-up against Argentina on Wednesday, must rest for at least two days before undergoing further medical examination. Platini, who said after playing for Juventus against Internazionale Sunday that his achilles tendon had been troubling him for several months, is due to see his doctor again on Wednesday, when a clearer idea of the seriousness of the injury should emerge.

Lineker voted Player of the Year

LONDON (R) — Everton striker Gary Lineker has been voted Player of the Year by his fellow-professional soccer players in the English League. Lineker, due to play in England's World Cup warm-up against the Soviet Union in Tbilisi on Wednesday, headed the Professional Footballers' Association poll from Manchester United's Paul McGrath with Liverpool defender Mark Lawrenson third.

Lendl shuts down Connors, 6-2, 6-0

FORT MEYERS, Florida (R) — Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia routed Jimmy Connors of the United States 6-2, 6-0 Sunday to win the Florida Classic tennis tournament and the \$50,000 first-place prize. After Connors had won two of the first three games, Lendl, who now has won 25 consecutive matches, used his powerful serve and ground game to reel off victories in 11 straight games to the end of the match. "I didn't play like a wimp," Connors said. "I took chances, but they didn't work today. I'll keep trying to improve. I know I'm playing good tennis, or I wouldn't be in the final."

Iraq and UAE draw 2-2

BAHRAIN (R) — Tideholders Iraq and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) drew 2-2 Monday in the fourth match of the seven-nation Gulf Soccer Tournament which started here on Sunday.

World Cup finalists Iraq are fielding a second-string team here. Offsides or lack of finishing finesse on both sides ended several potential scoring moves in the early minutes.

As things began to settle down UAE striker Fahd Khamis headed the first UAE goal in the 12th minute from a neat cross by Salem Saeed.

The Iraqis then intensified their

pressure and in the 26th minute striker Nazem Shaker outwitted UAE defenders to pass to Karim Saddam, who cannoned in the equaliser.

In the second half UAE tried stalling but the Iraqis kept up the pressure and Mouwafiq Hussein scored the second goal from a well-passed ball by Saddam in the 58th minute.

UAE began to move forward again and mid-fielder Adnan Talyani levelled the score again in the 74th minute.

Tuesday Bahrain play Saudi Arabia and Kuwait take on Oman.

Standings after four matches (tabulate under played, won, draw, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Kuwait	1	1	0	0	3	1	2
Oman	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Iraq	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Bahrain	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
UAE	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Oman	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Saudi Arabia	1	0	0	1	1	3	0

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YARMOUK UNIVERSITY LECTURE

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(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Economy

New crisis looms for British prime minister over share dealing charges

LONDON (R) — British opposition leaders have called on Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to give parliament full details of share dealings said by a Sunday newspaper to have reaped her a personal profit while in office.

The demands followed a front-page splash in the Mail on Sunday which said Mrs. Thatcher made a £2,300 (£3,450) profit in buying and selling shares in Australia's leading company, Broken Hill Proprietary.

It described the trading as unprecedented by a post-war prime minister.

"What she must do in terms of her own integrity and the government's integrity is to tell us exactly what is going on," Mr. Roy Hattersley, the Labour Party's chief financial spokesman, said.

"If you have a prime minister who plays the stock exchange, you

can understand why you get a budget for stockbrokers," he added.

Mrs. Thatcher's office would say only that any trading in shares was a private matter and that rules governing financial dealings by a minister would have been strictly observed.

The charges follow Mrs. Thatcher's worst crisis in which her government faced one public storm after another over its handling of rival bids to rescue the ailing Westland firm, Britain's only helicopter maker.

The affair prompted accusations that Mrs. Thatcher and her ministers had misled parliament, led to two ministerial resignations, and ended in the government's lowest opinion poll ratings in four years.

Mr. David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, said on television Sunday:

"The problem with the prime minister is that many people did not believe her, and quite rightly in my view, over the Westland affair."

"She has got a reputation for not talking straight to the House of Commons," he added.

"Conventions regulating financial dealings by government ministers say they 'must so order their affairs that no conflict arises, or appears to arise, between their private interests and their public duties.'"

Political sources said prime ministers invariably appointed private independent trustees to handle their finances while in office to avoid any such conflict.

According to the Mail on Sunday, the Broken Hill shares were registered under Mrs. Thatcher's own name, care of her private secretary.

Indonesia eases restrictions on E. European investments

JAKARTA (R) — Anti-communist Indonesia, pressing for greater trade with East Europe, says it will allow Soviet Bloc investment on the same terms it offers the West, the official Antara News Agency reported Monday.

Indonesia will not discriminate against East European investors, the chairman of the Investment Coordinating Board, Mr. Gimanjar Kartasasmita was quoted as saying.

The Jakarta Post said investors from Socialist countries no longer had to be recommended by the National Intelligence Agency before they could do business in Indonesia.

Mr. Gimanjar was briefing the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadindo) which plans to send a trade delegation to six East European countries and Austria early next month.

President Suharto, who rose to power after crushing an abortive communist coup attempt in 1965,

has moved to foster closer ties with the Eastern Bloc to make Indonesia less dependent on the West for its exports and foreign investment.

Last September President Suharto visited Romania and Hungary, his first trip to Warsaw Pact countries since becoming president.

No East European country has invested in Indonesia under the Suharto administration, according to government statistics.

Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Yakov Ryabov, the highest ranking official from Moscow to visit Indonesia under President Suharto, came here in October and agreed to step up trade.

New foreign investment has dropped to \$859 million in 1985 from \$1.08 billion in 1984 and \$2.73 billion in 1983.

Indonesia, hit by falling oil prices, is trying to attract new investment and trade in its non-oil commodities like coffee.

Britain achieves £3.56b Middle East trade surplus

LONDON — Britain last year recorded a £3.56 billion surplus in its balance of trade with the Middle East, nearly five per cent higher than in 1984, a CAABU (Council for Advancement of Arab British Understanding) said recently.

Department of Trade figures show that U.K. exports to the region (including Iran, but excluding Israel, Mauritania, Somalia and Djibouti) totalled £5.33 billion, while imports from the region stood at £1.77 billion, the CAABU release said.

According to the CAABU release, the figures are remarkable in view of the Middle East economic downturn, stemming from the world oil glut and associated oil price falls. Moreover, U.K. exports are holding up far better than those of Britain's main industrialised competitors.

OECD figures (which exclude North Africa) show that French exports to the Middle East declined 30 per cent in 1984/85, those from the United States by 22 per cent, from Italy by 20 per cent, from West Germany by 16 per cent.

The largest sources of U.K. imports from the region were Saudi Arabia, which sold Britain goods worth £480 million, Libya, with sales of £291 million, and Algeria, with sales of £251 million.

U.K., West German firms win \$650m UAE aluminium project

ABU DHABI, UAE (AP) — A consortium of British and West German firms have won a \$650 million deal for the construction of a second aluminium smelter in the United Arab Emirates. It was officially announced Monday.

The contract was signed Sunday night between the local government of the emirate of Um Al Quwain and a British-German consortium that includes Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering, B.L. four Beaty, Brown and Root and Ferrostaal.

The project is to be constructed in Um Al Quwain, one of the seven emirates forming the UAE, which includes Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Ajman and Fujairah.

The smelter which will have a capacity of 120,000 tons will be the second in this oil-rich country after the Dubai Aluminium Company, which produced about 150,000 tons a year mainly exported to China and the United States.

The non-oil producing emirate of Um Al Quwain will use gas from an offshore field under development which experts say will have a capacity to produce about 100 million cubic feet of gas per day.

Construction of the smelter will begin later this year and will be completed by 1989. It also includes a 250 megawatt power station, a gas production platform and a pipeline to bring the gas ashore.

OPEC ends talks without reaching any agreement

GENEVA (R) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ended its emergency conference here Monday, after nine days of intensive discussions on regaining control of world oil markets, but an OPEC official said there was no agreement of any kind.

An OPEC official said the meeting had been adjourned until April 15 to give delegations time to consult with their governments.

He added that although the 13 ministers had considered a plan from Indonesian Oil Minister Subroto for across-the-board production cuts to try to push the price of crude oil up, "no agreement of any kind has been reached."

OPEC's spokesman, Mr. James Audu, later confirmed what the official had said.

He read a short statement saying OPEC, "after having deliberated at length on the present market situation and the measures to be taken to restore stability to the world oil market... decided to adjourn its meeting and to reconvene on April 15, 1986."

This, the statement said, was "in order to allow enough time for OPEC heads of delegation to consult with their respective governments as well as with other oil-producing exporting countries."

Mr. Audu added that the venue of the resumed meeting had not yet been decided.

uperable obstacles.

They said these centred on Iran and Iraq, whose enmity in the Gulf war has made it virtually impossible for them to agree to anything, and on Venezuela, whose Oil Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti was reported to have come here with instructions not to accept any output reduction for his country.

Mr. Hernandez Grisanti was elected conference president last December, and has since attempted to present a confident, conciliatory image. This may have accounted for the lack Monday of the expected news conference and his own refusal of all comment.

Throughout the conference most ministers have avoided reporters, and hardly anyone was available after it ended.

Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi Shakhbouki was almost alone in claiming some measure of success, saying OPEC had agreed on cutting its output to 14 or 14.5 million barrels per day (b/d) from its current 16 million.

The period before the next gathering would be taken up with consultations on how to redistribute quotas under this ceiling, he said.

Libya is one of three countries — the others are Iran and Algeria — which have always opposed the "market share" strategy, calling instead for a return to lower output.

Dollar starts advancing again

LONDON (R) — The dollar staged a comeback on foreign exchanges Monday, advancing strongly against other currencies amid official comments from Japan suggesting that its long decline has bottomed out, dealers said.

Hectic dollar buying was unleashed in early European business when a senior Bank of Japan official in Tokyo said that the U.S. central bank was worried about possible further dollar falls, as this would rekindle U.S. inflation.

The two central banks believed the dollar's fall was more or less complete, the official told reporters.

Japan is also concerned because the weak dollar is pushing up the price of its exports to America. The official would not say whether the Japanese or U.S. central banks were prepared to back their judgement with action, but traders were taking no chances, and scrambled to buy back the greenback.

"No one is willing to bet on the Bank of Japan not putting its money where its mouth is," one dealer commented.

The buying surge boosted the dollar by five pence at one stage to 2.30 marks, a level not seen in Europe for over a month. It later fell back slightly to around 2.2875 marks.

Dealers said the dollar also looks more attractive after the announcement last week that Federal Reserve (Fed) Vice Chairman Preston Martin is resigning.

But while the U.S. and Japanese may be keen to stop any further sharp dollar declines, they do not want to reverse the dollar too suddenly in case this resuscitates protectionist pressures in the United States, some analysts said.

The dollar has been declining steadily since last September, and economists said further falls could result from the sluggish performance being put in by the American economy and from an easier trend in short-term U.S. interest rates.

The failure of the OPEC meeting in Geneva Monday to agree on ways to shore up the price of oil hurt sterling, which had otherwise been buoyed by Britain's relatively high interest rates and low inflation.

The pound, which hit a high earlier of \$1.5160, fell back to \$1.4860 and 3.3920 marks in mid-afternoon trading.

Australian tycoon withdraws bid for biggest company

SYDNEY (R) — Australia's richest man, Mr. Robert Holmes A Court, Monday shocked Australian stock markets by withdrawing his bid for control of the country's largest company, Broken Hill Proprietary (BHP).

The South African-born entrepreneur quickly hinted at another bid, which would be his fourth move to take over the multinational resources giant he has been stalking for the last three years.

"I don't think that there is any prospect at all of us ever giving up," Mr. Holmes A Court told reporters after a brief statement which immediately sent BHP shares plunging.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4945/55	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3955/62	Canadian dollars
	2.2860/75	West German marks
	2.5790/810	Dutch guilders
	1.9150/65	Swiss francs
	46.71/78	Belgian francs
	7.0175/0275	French francs
	155.3/555	Italian lire
	178.53/63	Japanese yen
	7.2425/2500	Swedish crowns
	7.1600/75	Norwegian crowns
	8.4400/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	352.50/353.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — In the London stock market on Monday government bonds showed net losses of around 1/4 point on profit-taking.

Oils were lower after the OPEC meeting adjourned without reaching agreement. B.P. was 7p off at 563 and Shell a net 3p down at 768. Lasso was 12p easier at 128 ahead of final results. Banks met profit-taking after recent strength and lost up to 20p including Midland at 524. In lower insurance Royal lost 13p at 885.

British aerospace gained 15p at 606 after favourable weekend press comment ahead of 1985 figures due on Tuesday and a £70 million order from the U.K. government.

IMI was 4p off at 174 and Steelcity 10p lower at 456 both after 1985 results.

Clive Discount was unmoved at 50p after news businessman Robert Maxwell acquired a 14.01 per cent stake in the company. Clive has agreed terms for a 50p per share bid from Bache group. In lower foods, S and W Berisford was 3p up at 233 and showed little reaction to news Ferruzzi of Italy had increased its stake in the company to around nine per cent. Berisford began bid discussions with Ferruzzi last month.

Peanuts



Kohl coalition still divided over proposed SDI role

BONN (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition remained divided over West Germany's proposed "Star Wars" role Monday as Economics Minister Martin Bangemann prepared to fly to Washington to conclude negotiations.

Mr. Bangemann said Sunday he expected to sign an accord this week on the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), but added that "a few important questions" including whether certain clauses should remain secret, had to be settled first.

On Monday, Mr. Kohl's chief spokesman Friedrich Ost said there were no difficult issues outstanding and added it was quite normal for parts of a treaty to be confidential.

Deputy Foreign Minister Jürgen Moellmann, however, said secrecy was wrong "in any respect" and he indirectly criticised Mr. Kohl for giving the United States the impression all was agreed.

Mr. Bangemann leads the liberal Free Democrats (FDP), the smallest party in Mr. Kohl's centre-right coalition but holders of the balance of power in parliament.

Mr. Moellmann is also FDP.

Despite endorsements by Mr. Kohl and his conservatives for President Reagan's \$26-billion plan for a space-based anti-missile defence system, the FDP has remained critical of the project and cool to German participation.

Mr. Kohl intervened personally last week to discuss the negotiations with visiting U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger. Both men later declared that basic agreement had been reached and a pact could be signed this week.

The announcement ruffled Mr. Bangemann, who has led the negotiations with Washington since Bonn decided on Dec. 18 last year to seek a role in "Star Wars" research for German industry, though without any commitment of state funds.

Bonn would be the second U.S.

ally after Britain to sign an SDI accord. But unlike the classified British pact, signed by defence ministers, the FDP wants Bonn to keep its distance from political-military aspects of SDI, agreeing only to a private, quasi-commercial role in the high-technology research.

Mr. Moellmann Monday accused Mr. Weinberger of "seriously damaging" the alliance with his declaration at a NATO defence ministers' meeting in West Germany last week that SDI would not be included in the superpower arms control talks in Geneva.

He said Mr. Weinberger was contradicting Mr. Reagan's position that SDI would remain within the agreed bounds of the anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty, which places mutually agreed limits on anti-missile defence for both sides.

"It simply cannot be that political decisions affecting East-West relations as a whole are taken in isolation," he added in an interview with the Neue Osnabrücker newspaper.

Meanwhile West German pub-

lic prosecutors are expected to drop their investigations into allegations that Mr. Kohl gave false testimony to parliamentary committees, the mass circulation newspaper Bild has said.

Bild, in an article released ahead of publication Monday, quoted judicial sources as saying that it was "most probable" that the investigations against Mr. Kohl would be dropped as state prosecutors believed the allegations were too weak to lead to formal charges.

Mr. Kohl is currently under investigation by public prosecutors in both Bonn and Koblenz. On Sunday night spokesmen for the public prosecutors' offices were not immediately available for comment.

Both the Bonn and Koblenz investigations were started after formal allegations of false testimony were filed by a former member of parliament for the radical Greens Party, lawyer Otto Schily. Bild said both the Bonn and Koblenz prosecutors were examining whether Schily himself had made false allegations.

1,000 Filipino rebels surrender

CEBU CITY, Philippines (AP) — A regional military commander said more than 1,000 alleged Communist "cadres" turned themselves into the military Monday in the first mass surrender of rebels since President Corason Aquino took power last month.

Brig.-Gen. Rodrigo M. Ordoyo, commander of the Philippine army's 3rd Infantry Division based in this central Philippine city, flew to nearby Negros Island for the surrender ceremony in a military camp in Canlaon city.

The military under ex-President Ferdinand Marcos held several such surrender ceremonies, which were widely viewed as propaganda stunts involving simple villagers rather than real rebels. It cannot be independently confirmed whether the new surrender was any more authentic.

Gen. Ordoyo told reporters in Cebu the returnees were led by a woman, Beatriz Justiniani, 31, who he said held the rank of a commander in the outlawed Communist New People's Army (NPA).

The people he described as "cadres" surrendered about 20 guns. Gen. Ordoyo said. He said they were not fighters but were engaged in recruitment and propaganda work and were not part of the guerrillas' armed force, which he estimated at about 1,000 on Negros.

There has been no significant drop in rebel activity since Mrs. Aquino became president on Feb. 25 after a military revolt that drove Marcos into exile.

In Manila, the military said three rebels were killed in a clash last Saturday between government troops and a 40-man insurgent group in Dumanin, Zamboanga Del Sur, on southern Mindanao Island.

In a speech last weekend, Mrs. Aquino called on guerrillas to lay down their arms, saying that with Marcos gone, "the evil has fled from the land" and they should have no more reason to continue fighting.

Marcos' booty can run Philippines for 3 years

MANILA (R) — The wealth of ousted leader Ferdinand Marcos could finance the cash-starved Philippine budget for three years or boost the gross national product (GNP) by one third, according to government estimates.

Minister for Commission on Good Government Jovito Salonga has estimated Marcos' total assets at up to \$10 billion, 33 per cent of GNP and three times the country's annual budget of \$3.3 billion.

In comparison the Bank of Philippine Islands, the country's biggest bank, has assets worth just over \$1 billion, according to a report on the country's top 1,000 corporations.

The biggest company is National Power Corporation which has assets worth only 99.5 billion pesos (\$5 billion).

Mr. Salonga and his sleuths are investigating Marcos' links with overseas properties, secret bank accounts, mysterious stock holdings in Philippine companies, and investments by front organisations.

Marcos and his family fled the country a month ago after his 20-year-old government was toppled by a civilian-backed military revolt which propelled Corason Aquino to power.

The U.S. government turned over to Manila some 2,300 documents he took with him and investigators are making new discoveries of his investments every day.

U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz described the Marcos papers as an "Encyclopedia of corruption."

Retirement of Thai army chief sparks coup fears

BANGKOK (R) — Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda said Monday he would retire Thailand's powerful army chief, sparking rumours of an imminent coup although the government said the situation was normal.

Mr. Prem called a sudden news conference to say he would retire Gen. Arthit Kamlang-Ek when he turns 61 in August.

Mr. Prem said he made the decision out of "correctness and fairness." He had extended Gen. Arthit for 12 months last year when he reached the mandatory retirement age of 60.

The military plays a dominant role in politics and Gen. Arthit, who is also supreme commander of the armed forces, a largely ceremonial post, was considered a potential prime minister.

Senior security officers said the situation was tense. Informed military sources reported unusual preparations among tank and other units over the weekend but said this lasted only briefly.

Chantakruti Sirisuth, secretary general to Mr. Prem, who is also defence minister, said there was

no basis to the coup rumours. "Don't believe them, the situation is normal in all aspects," he told Reuters.

Mr. Prem is believed by diplomats to have overwhelming backing from the army's most powerful force commanders.

Deputy Army Commander-in-Chief Gen. Chuthai Saengthaveep and assistant army chief Akkhopol Somroop had called a news conference on Friday to say they favoured an extension for Gen. Arthit.

They said rejection of an extension would run against the will of the armed forces, a warning seen by diplomats as a veiled coup threat.

Mr. Prem said he was compelled to speak out Monday to clear up confusion over the issue. He said Gen. Arthit still had plenty of time and opportunities to serve the nation outside the military.

In line to succeed Gen. Arthit is army Chief-Of-Staff Gen. Chavalit Yongchaiyuth, a staunch Prem supporter who played a major role in crushing a second coup attempt against the prime minister last September.

Sikh extremists kill 2 in Punjab

AMRITSAR, India (AP) — Suspected Sikh terrorists sabotaged a railroad and fatally shot two people on a farm outside Amritsar, Punjab, Monday, a day after the ambush killings of three Hindus in the same area. Punjab state police reported.

Police and paramilitary troops, meanwhile, broke a five-day siege of Batala by Sikh militants, said P.C. Dogra, Punjab deputy inspector-general of police. "The siege is over. We dispersed them this morning and arrested about 71," Dogra said by telephone. He said all entry points to the predominantly Hindu town were cleared of blockaders.

However, Sikh villagers continued their boycott Monday, refusing to supply food, milk and vegetables to the townspeople, said R.P.S. Pawar, the area's top civilian official. He said authorities had brought in food and milk from other parts of the state.

"The situation is under control, but because of some violent incidents I have reversed my earlier decision to lift curfew for a few hours today," Pawar said by telephone.

Batala, a major industrial centre 40 kilometres north of Amritsar, has been torn by Sikh-Hindu violence since last month. Authorities imposed a round-the-clock curfew and shoot-on-sight orders a week ago but rioting and arson have been reported daily.

A state government spokesman told reporters in Chandigarh that terrorists sabotaged the Amritsar-Batala railroad by removing a portion of the track.

The removed track was recovered from the village of Kathu Nandla, close to Amritsar, the spokesman said. The sabotage was discovered before any train could pass that route.

The spokesman said Sikh militants continued a sit-in Monday on the highway leading from Jullundur to Batala.

This siege of Batala was triggered last Wednesday by false rumours that Hindus had set fire to a Batala Sikh shrine. The militants sought to punish the townspeople by blockading food and milk supplies.

"It was started more as a protest. They suspected members of

the Hindu Shiv Sena may attack gurdwaras (Sikh shrines), so they organised a blockade to deter attacks," Pawar said.

The radical Shiv Sena, or the God's army, had threatened to send armed volunteers from elsewhere in Punjab to break the siege.

Dogra said the two people, a Sikh and a Hindu, were shot by Sikh extremists outside Batala. He said one of them was an inspector in the government's telephone department while the other was a shopkeeper.

The latest slayings raised the death toll to 33 in Punjab violence in the past 10 days.

Police did not immediately identify Monday's two victims. The assailants escaped, as do most attackers. On Sunday, three Hindus were dragged out of a car and shot dead by a group of Sikh youths in Batala.

A Punjab government spokesman told reporters that the car was ambushed on the Amritsar-Batala highway.

After the slayings, the gunmen fled in the car with 16,000 rupees (\$1,330) from the pocket of one of the victims, he said.

S. African violence claims 2 more lives

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Two men have died in a new flare-up of clashes between blacks in South Africa's racially zoned townships, police said.

A black policeman was kidnapped and stabbed to death in the tribal homeland of Kwa-Ndebele and a black man was stabbed to death Sunday night in Rotunda, south-east of Johannesburg.

Rotunda residents said the man was a supporter of the main group fighting apartheid race discrimination in South Africa, the United Democratic Front, and that he was murdered in a shebeen (illicit drinking den) by right-wing blacks opposed to a political protest strike in the township.

They said at least one more person was killed Monday, shot as he was on his way to work in defiance of a strike launched over various grievances linked to apartheid.

The latest confirmed deaths bring the toll of blacks killed by blacks since Friday to at least 17.

Violence has erupted within black communities as right-wingers, often related to black councillors and officials, have hit back at radicals who brand them as collaborators for working in organisations set up by the white-dominated government.

Police said the policeman was found with multiple stab wounds near Denitlon, in Kwa-Ndebele, after he was seized by a black crowd and dragged away.

Kwa-Ndebele is one of 10 rural areas set aside for South Africa's black majority under apartheid race policies.

Tension has been rising in the area since the government announced its intention to grant independence to Kwa-Ndebele soon, a move opposed by many residents. It will be the fifth homeland to gain an independence which no country except South Africa recognises.

Three black people were injured at Galeshewe in the Orange Free State when a house was set on fire, police said. Another house was petrol-bombed at Attteridgeville black township in the Transvaal.

Police fired rifles and teargas to break up what they said was an illegal gathering in Blouwater black township in the Cape province. No injuries were reported.

Bali prepares to welcome Reagan

JAKARTA (R) — The resort island of Bali is taking measures to ensure President Reagan's visit next month does not trigger chaos and long waits for holiday makers.

The official Antara News Agency quoted tourism officials in the island's capital of Denpasar as saying they anticipated a large number of flights during the end of April and were working to iron out bottlenecks.

They said the Reagan's entourage was expected to arrive aboard four Jumbo Jets. The White House and visiting journalists and officials would take up three luxury hotels.

They said the airport at Denpasar was small and some jets would have to be parked at the nearby East Java airport at Surabaya, 160 kilometres away.

The head of the Bali Office of Tourism, Oka Pemanan, said tourists booked into the three hotels, the Nusa Dua, the Putri Bali and the Bali Sol would be transferred to hotels on other parts of the island.

He said no room shortage had been reported so far for tourists coming to Bali. The tropical island is known for its palms, coral reefs, temple dancers and gentle Hindu culture.

Mr. Reagan is scheduled to visit Bali from April 29 to May 2 for talks with President Suharto and foreign ministers of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The visit will allow him to meet Philippine Vice-President and Foreign Minister Salvador Laurel.

Mr. Reagan will go from Bali to a seven-nation economic summit in Tokyo.

Suleman Hardjowisastro, Indonesia's director for tourism development, warned on Saturday that Denpasar Airport may get congested during the Reagan visit because of inadequate facilities for Jumbos.

But Antara said preparations were being made to cope with the invasion. It did not give details.

Andi Mappisameng, director-general at the Tourism Ministry, said ASEAN countries would use the Reagan visit to promote the industry.

Election row spreads to Bangladesh universities

DHAKA (R) — Hundreds of students have fled six Bangladesh universities for fear of campus violence over proposed parliamentary elections, teachers and staff said Monday.

They said most of those who left the campus Sunday night were supporters of a 15-party opposition alliance, which had agreed to take part in the May 7 polls after concessions by President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

The mass exodus was triggered by bitter arguments among rival student activists, some of whom had joined another opposition alliance boycotting the elections, they said.

Officials at the Rajshahi University in north Bangladesh told reporters at least one student was stabbed Sunday during a protest march.

Gen. Ershad has in the past twice dismantled zonal martial law offices, abolished military courts and dropped 19 ministers who would contest the polls to convince opposition parties that the elections would be free and fair.

Meanwhile the government imposed a 24-hour curfew on the southern Bangladesh town of Sylhet Monday after at least 50 people were seriously hurt and several shops burned in fighting between students and residents, officials said.

They said police were called out to stop the fighting which lasted several hours as rioters attacked each other with sticks and stones.

Witnesses and police told Reuters by telephone the trouble started after a dispute in a tea shop between medical college students and residents.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SEARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—In "Goren's Bridge Complete" you say that, to make a cue-bid in the enemy suit, you must have first or second-round control. However, in your column I frequently see cue-bids made with two or three low cards in the enemy suit. Why this anomaly?—J.H.R., Detroit, Mich.

A.—I presume you are referring to auctions such as:

North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♣ 3 ♣

A typical hand for this auction could be:

♠A765 ♥K106 ♦83 ♣AQ105

Obviously, South has enough to force the auction to game, yet he has no convenient bid. He doesn't want to jump raise opener's suit with only three-card support or introduce a four-card suit at the two or three-level. The only convenient way to tell partner that he has sufficient values for game, while at the same time asking partner to define his hand further is to cue-bid the overcaller's suit.

Don't confuse this auction with the following:

East South
1 ♥ 2 ♥

Unless you have a conventional agreement for this cue-bid, it is a strong takeout double. The cue-bidder should have close to game in hand and be guaranteed first or second-round control in opener's suit.

Q.—We had an enormous disagree-

ment over the meaning of a bid in the auction below. We were vulnerable with 80 on score:

North South
1 ♠ 2 ♣

We went down one at three spades and eventually lost the rubber. South had six points and four spades. North felt that South needed extra values to raise at that score, but South disagreed. What's your opinion?—C.H.E., Bridgeport, Conn.

A.—Usually, when you bid over game you are showing extra values. However, the one time that this does not apply is in the situation you describe—where you have a partner and the opening bid completes the game.

Here, a raise of opener's suit or a new suit bid has exactly the same meaning as if there was no partners. It is the duty of responder to make it as difficult as possible for the opponents to enter the auction and to make it easier for your side to decide what to do should the opponents compete.

As a matter of curiosity, I would like to know what North held to propel your side one level too high. Opposite a simple raise, North should have a powerhouse to, even contemplating slam notwithstanding any agreements he might have thought you had, so I can't construct a single hand where three spades would be in jeopardy.



1 dies in fireworks accident in Spain

SUECA, Spain (AP) — A large rocket fell into a crowd and exploded during a fireworks display Sunday night at the annual fiesta in this town in eastern Spain, killing one person and injuring 30, local authorities said Monday. The explosion occurred shortly after 11 p.m. at the close of a week's festivities. Authorities said the explosion apparently occurred when one of the three fuses on a three-stage rocket failed, causing the rocket to plummet to the ground and explode in the midst of a group of people. Juan Francisco Pastor, 38, and 30 other persons were rushed to hospital of La Fe, in Valencia. Pastor died hours later from his injuries, said hospital director Miguel Orozco.

Brazil captures most wanted bandit

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — One of Brazil's most wanted criminals — a man seen by some as a modern-day Robin Hood — was seriously wounded and captured after a shootout, police has said. Jose Carlos Dos Reis Encina, popularly known as Escadinha, was shot twice in the chest, and at least six of his gang members were wounded after police encircled the shantytown that was his headquarters, civil policeman Heroldo Almeida Rodrigues, head of the operation, said in an interview with Rio's Radio JB. "Once he was circled he decided to shoot it out with us ... using machine guns," said Rodrigues, adding that the shootout lasted 20 minutes.

Archbishop punched for refusing instant wedding

SYDNEY (R) — A man with an American accent attacked and punched an archbishop in his church after being refused an instant wedding, police has said. The man, whose identity was not known, walked into the church in suburban Strathfield and asked Lebanese Maronite Archbishop Abdu Khalife, 72, to marry him and his newly found Australian girlfriend. He said the wedding had to be quick because he had to leave the country. When Khalife refused on the grounds he did not know the man's background, the frustrated groom punched him, overturned the rectory desk, ripped a telephone from the wall and fled. Father Michael Kariouz who came to the archbishop's aid was punched repeatedly in the head and left cut and bleeding.

Wild elephants kill 5 in Bangladesh

RANGAMATI, Bangladesh (R) — Wild elephants rampaging through a village in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region of Bangladesh killed five members of a family, police has said. At least a dozen elephants stormed into Thailpara village, uprooting trees, flattening houses and destroying crops. Seven villagers were injured. A village headman was trampled to death and nine villagers were hurt in a raid by elephants on the same village last month.

26 nations to send ships to Liberty celebrations

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Navy has announced that at least 26 nations will send modern combat ships or tall sailing vessels to participate in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor. In addition, 10 foreign navies are planning to send delegations for the festivities, the navy added. The naval activities will begin with an international naval review involving the modern ships. On July 3, 21 foreign ships from 14 countries will join 11 U.S. Navy ships steaming into New York Harbour and up the Hudson River, the navy said. The vessels will anchor, and on July 4, the U.S. battleship Iowa will pass each in review to exchange honours. Following the international naval review, 21 large class "A" sailing vessels — including ships from 12 foreign countries — will parade up the Hudson River for "Operation Sail 1986," the navy added. The two national events will be part of a much larger, four-day "Liberty Weekend 86" celebration marking the statue's centennial. A gift from the people of France, the Statue of Liberty was dedicated on Oct. 28, 1886. It has been undergoing a major refurbishment since early 1984. Its torch will be relit on the night of July 3.

India reportedly rejects \$350 m Bhopal settlement

NEW YORK (R) — A lawyer representing India in talks that resulted in a \$350-million tentative settlement for victims of the Bhopal disaster said Monday the Indian government did not support the plan.

"It is the position of the Indian government that there can be no settlement of this litigation without the government's approval and without the Indian government being included in the settlement," Bruce Finzen, who works for a Minneapolis law firm, said in an interview.

"That is because the individual plaintiff's attorneys do not have the authority to represent the victims of the disaster or to settle the case on their behalf," he said.

"The government will oppose any settlement that is not an amount that is fair and adequate to compensate all of the victims in the disaster."

India had claimed that it alone represented the victims and had sought to exclude the more than

100 American lawyers suing on behalf of them.

A spokesman for Union Carbide said Sunday that the settlement had been agreed to by U.S. lawyers acting for the victims and was likely to satisfy India.

More than 2,000 people died and 200,000 were injured when Carbide's Bhopal pesticides plant leaked 40 tonnes of deadly methyl isocyanate gas into the air in December, 1984.

Carbide spokesman Harvey Cobert said that under the settlement Carbide would set up a \$350-million fund which would be paid over a number of years.

With interest accrued from the fund the total benefit to the victims and their families would amount to between \$500 million and \$600 million, he said.

Although the settlement was agreed between the company and American lawyers representing the plaintiffs, who had sued Carbide for billions of dollars, there was mixed reaction from the law-

yers Monday.

Philadelphia lawyer Gene Lochs said: "Based on the information we have concerning the severity of the injuries, it is a fair and generous settlement by Indian standards."

"There are very substantial amounts of money, or can be, depending on the method of distribution to each of the victims." The distribution of money has been a major concern to Carbide, who has said it should not be handled by the Indian government but by the International Red Cross.

Mr. Cobert said he did not know if the settlement stated how the claimants should receive their payments.

Lawyer Melvin Belli, who represents 2,000 Bhopal clients, said he was going to "make damn sure ... that money is going to go to the people themselves."

Lawyer Stanley Rosenblatt appeared to be unhappy with the settlement. "Union Carbide has the satisfaction of knowing that

this tragedy has been swept under the rug for the payment of their (the victims') total worth at \$1700 per victim," he said.

Carbide said earlier it believed the settlement satisfied the Indian government's wishes in the case.

"In light of the government of India's desire to have a settlement based on U.S. standards, it would appear that these objectives can be achieved," a company statement said.

The settlement comes 11 months after the claims were first heard last April by federal Judge John Keenan, who must now approve it before it can be implemented.

Carbide's board of directors must also approve it.

If the settlement goes through it will mean the end of litigation in America against the parent company. There are suits pending in India against Union Carbide India Ltd, the city of Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh state and the government of India.